

## Rate of price increases smallest for a year

retail price index has shown the smallest increase for a year, largely because of a seasonal food price, government figures showed yesterday. But the foreign trade continues to grow. Well over half of last year's £77m increase in the deficit was caused by oil price rises.

## Trade figures slide further into red

Inflation in Britain is showing a marked deceleration in eliminating the £1.5 billion trade deficit in the first half of the year, but the foreign trade continues to grow. Well over half of last year's £77m increase in the deficit was caused by oil price rises.



Mr Jo Grimond: Mapping a way out of the vicious circle.

## Mr Grimond looks at bureaucracy

The party conference season opens next week, when the Liberals meet in Scarborough. Starting on Monday in *The Times*, Mr Jo Grimond, former leader of the Liberal Party, looks at the issues facing our political leaders and the public at large.

## Heavy sentences on 16 defendants in Athens torture trial

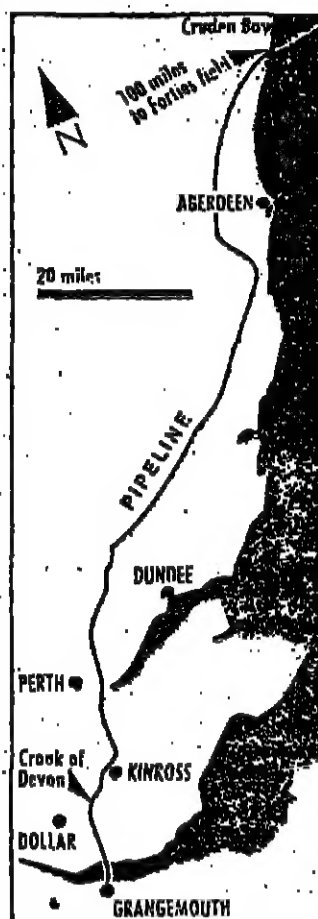
From Mario Modiano  
Athens, Sept 12  
The Athens court-martial to-night passed heavy prison sentences on 16 officers and privates accused of torturing political prisoners, and acquitted 25 others, mainly privates. One of the three former commanders of the notorious EAT-ESA torture camp, received a sentence of 23 years imprisonment. The other two each received 20 years.



Two enthusiasts studying a bloom yesterday at the Royal National Rose Society's autumn show. Report, page 14.

## North Sea oil pipeline damaged by a bomb

From Ronald Faux  
Perth  
Army bomb experts were called in last night by police investigating an attempt to sabotage the RP pipeline which is to bring North Sea oil to Grangemouth refinery in November.



## Weeping London girls taken to Kenya jail

From Our Correspondent  
Nairobi, Sept 12  
Weeping hysterically, two London schoolgirls were escorted from court this evening by an African policeman to the women's remand prison near here.

## Three Spanish leftists sentenced to death

From Our Correspondent  
Madrid, Sept 12  
Three members of the extreme left-wing anti-fascist Revolutionary Patriotic Front (FRAP), were sentenced to death today by a military court outside Madrid for killing a policeman.

## Rees stays, government 'loyalists'

Mr Street denied yesterday that Secretary of State for Northern Ireland was soon to be moved to another post, and said that those "loyalists" who were removed were taken by the full backing of his security policies.

## Editor is freed after seven weeks in jail

Mr Kuldip Nayar, Delhi correspondent of *The Times* and *India's* leading editor, was freed yesterday after being detained for seven weeks under the internal security laws.

## EEC Commission to meet on 'wine war'

The European Commission is to meet in Brussels on Monday to assess the legality of the French decision to impose a tax on cheap Italian wine imports.

## On other pages

Letters: On Birmingham newspaper dispute from the leader of Birmingham City Council; Britain's role on Cyprus from Professor Alistair Buchan and Major-General R. L. T. Surges.  
Leading articles: Liberal conference: Mr Merlyn Rees.  
Features: pages 7-12  
George Hutchinson, on why it is essential for his own sake that Mr Heath's record in office should be put straight: Humphrey Berkeley recalls with affection the Nanny who served his family: Philippe Toomey, profile on Shirley Maclaine.  
Sport, pages 5 and 6  
Cricket: Hampshire lose chance of championship; Racing: Prospects for English and French St Leger; Football: Geoffrey Green previews today's league matches.  
Arts, page 9  
John Percival interviews Partridge Part of the London Festival Ballet.  
Obituary, page 14  
Sir Arnold Green.  
Business News, pages 15-19  
Stock markets: Equities ended the week on a firm note, largely discounting the August trade figures. The FT index closed 2.8 up, at 315.3.  
Personal Investment and Finance  
Margaret Stone on the United Life assurance groups and television advertising: Vera Di Palma discusses the tax implications of over-accumulation: John Drummond looks at policies designed to meet capital transfer tax liabilities.

## Ice rally trouble, coming to party

The left-wing extremists at the rally on Thursday evening were yesterday as a warning to the about-face Party, including the left, by Mr Neville.

## Gen Spinoza warned

Lisbon announced in a stern public statement yesterday that General Spinoza would be arrested and tried if he returned to Portugal from exile.

## Electoral reform: The Hansard Society has set up a commission to study electoral reform

The Hansard Society has set up a commission to study electoral reform.

## France ready to pay Chad ransom

Paris, Sept 12.—The French Government announced tonight that it is ready to pay rebels in Chad the ransom of 10m francs (about £1m) they have been demanding for the release of Mme Françoise Claustre, a French anthropologist, who has been held in a desert hideout for 17 months. — Agency France-Press.

## Port control hint

Yesterday gave a clear indication that the Government has not entirely ruled out the possibility of certain import controls.

## Lockheed bribes

A Senate committee was told in Washington yesterday that the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation paid about £50m in one of its agents in commission and "straight bribes" to procure orders in Saudi Arabia.

## Prime rate up: First National City Bank of New York has raised its prime lending rate from 7 1/2 per cent to 8 per cent

The First National City Bank of New York has raised its prime lending rate from 7 1/2 per cent to 8 per cent.

### Dewar's

FINE SCOTCH WHISKY  
"White Label"

## Smooth to the last drop

Bleeded for smoothness—it never varies



## International Socialists and National Front admit involvement in Prentice rally disturbances at Newham

[illegible]

Published twice weekly (Sundays and 24, and 26th Friday) by the  
The Times, London, England, and  
Printed at New York, N.Y., by  
Air Freight on \$2.75 per three  
2nd Street, New York, N.Y.  
Telephone: BR 5338



## ME NEWS

## World council formed to look after needs of talented children

Devlin world council to look after needs of gifted children was formed yesterday under the auspices of Mr Dan Bitan, department of gifted children in the Israeli ministry of education.

A general assembly of 110 delegates from the 55 countries attending the World Conference on Gifted Children was also held at the council's executive.

Bitan said the aims of the council would be to focus on gifted children's valuable contribution to society, to make, and to their talents and difficulties.

The council will try to create an atmosphere of acceptance for gifted children, to make them feel that they are not a privileged elite, and to persuade governments to recognize gifted children as a category for special attention.

Mrs Nava Butler, head of special education at Haifa University, said that in Israel an experiment which was started in 1973 of providing classes for gifted children in primary schools was to be carried on to secondary schooling.

Mrs Kirsten Vaughan, of Denmark, in a speech which she said had been cleared by the Danish ministry of education, said that her policy was that no child should be taught anything which exceeded the capacity of any other child in the class.

She told delegates on the last day of the five-day conference: "We have now got the undivided school as an ideal, and the inclusion of the mentally retarded and remedial children into normal classes is being considered."



Armapal Singh, aged 20, stated to be the first Sikh traffic warden in London, who has been allowed to wear a special yellow turban with a warden's badge.

## WEST EUROPE

## EEC Commission to meet on Monday in attempt to avert full-scale 'wine war'

From Michael Horasby

The European Commission was engaged in intense consultation with national governments today in an attempt to find a basis for Community endorsement of France's unilateral decision yesterday to impose a tax averaging about 12 per cent on the import of cheap Italian wines. The imports have flooded the French market, undercutting domestic producers.

A special meeting of the Commission, which was formally notified of the French move late yesterday evening, has been called for Monday to assess the legality of the French action in the light of Article 31(2) of the five-year-old Community regulation establishing the common market in wine. This article permits EEC member states to restrict imports to "avoid disturbance of their markets".

The main difficulty is that this safeguard clause, which has been invoked by France, is

generally agreed by Community lawyers to have lapsed. Indeed, the Commission itself, the guardian of EEC laws, pronounced the clause void several years ago. To sanction its exhumation now could well encourage resort to similar dead provisions scattered about the EEC treaties.

If the commission decides that France has infringed the EEC's fair trade rules, Paris will be asked to submit further justifications for its actions within a given period, probably about a week. If it were then still not satisfied, the Commission would be empowered to request France to lift the import tax under threat of action by the European court of justice.

That, at any rate, is the formal procedure. It is clear, however, that the Commission will make every effort to avoid such a confrontation. In essence, Mr Pierre Lardinois, the EEC Commissioner for agriculture, has told national governments that he is prepared

to break the rules, but only if he is confident that he has their unanimous support.

The main obstacle is Italy. As long as there remains a threat of Italian retaliation, whether legal or commercial (against imports of French meat and cereals), the Commission is stymied.

The view here is that there is still hope of finding a way out of the impasse and averting a full-scale Franco-Italian "wine war".

Rome: Italy decided today to take counter-measures which will be announced after the EEC Commission meeting on Monday.

The Government's international economic policy committee met and issued a communiqué calling the French tax "a patent violation of the principle of free circulation of goods, without any legal basis". The committee said it was confident the EEC Commission would take steps to restore the principle of free circulation.

## Growing concern over West's failure to produce interchangeable equipment for alliance's armies

From Robert Fisk

Lüneburg Heath, Sept 12

Individual armies training under the Nato axis in West Germany appear efficient enough on their own. The Bundeswehr's 2nd Jäger Division, for example, has been practising here this week with their Leopard tanks.

Fledgling tank commanders who have never before fired live rounds have had the opportunity of shooting across the range at Bergen Hohen towards the rusted armoured vehicles and red triangular target posts that have been left there to test their accuracy.

On Tuesday, the Jäger Division sent armoured personnel carriers on to the heath behind the German infantry, while Bundeswehr and Belgian Army officers chatted amiably in an observatory lorry next to the unit's mobile headquarters.

So confident did one senior West German officer feel that he chose to spend over five minutes next to a tank reloaded for the benefit of a Belgian major the story of how he once shot a deer while camping next to the same Lüneburg range, carrying off the carcass in a civilian car.

But behind such well-intentioned camaraderie, every Nato army is aware that their military cooperation - expressed particularly in their differing

equipment - leaves a lot to be desired. Army and air force officers of several nations have already publicized the lack of standardization among Nato's small arms, but only now are they beginning to reveal the scope of the problem.

If the West German and Belgians had been operating a joint manoeuvre on Lüneburg Heath this week - or, more to the point, had been fighting together in a conventional war - they would have found problems not only with their ammunition but with their wounded as well: for Bundeswehr stretchers do not fit on to the racks of Belgian Army ambulances.

If the Belgians suddenly required more fuel from the Germans for their personnel carriers they could not be given it; not because the fuel itself is incompatible but because the fuelpumps and gauges of the two armies' vehicles do not marry up.

Nato soldiers admit that the time when they will share common or interchangeable equipment is still very far away. National armaments directors have been discussing standardization for some time but within Nato's Northern Army Group there are very few items of equipment that are common to even two of its four corps; furthermore, current armaments improvements will not

necessarily alleviate the situation.

At present, West Germany, Italy and Britain are collaborating in the production of the F770 round, a development which will allow the 1st German and 1st British Corps in Nato's central region to use the same 155mm ammunition.

Although the United States will be able to fit into this ballistic harmonization, British and Holland will not be able to fire the new ammunition in their guns and so the Northern Army Group will have achieved only 50 per cent compatibility.

Less dramatic but potentially more serious than this are problems of communication. This does not involve so much language difficulties, for many Nato officers speak four languages, as the physical equipment used to connect one army with another.

It is, of course, in the interest of Nato officers to exaggerate their problems so that politicians might pay more attention to them, and it is certainly beyond the responsibilities of any Nato army group.

But, as one allied officer said this week, the interpretation of this responsibility has not always been in the best interests of Nato. Headquarters and greater attention should be paid by nations to the allies' operational needs.

## Mr Hattersley hoped for greater progress on fisheries

By Roger Berthoud

The conclusion of the first round in Reykjavik of the ministerial review of Britain's fishing agreement with Iceland, which expires on November 13, brought no great optimism yesterday in either capital. Detailed discussions have been postponed until a further meeting in London in mid-October.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said on returning to London that he had hoped for greater progress. The Icelandic side had not wanted to discuss such matters as the number of British trawlers which would be allowed to fish inside Icelandic limits, the areas that would be open, and possible quotas.

Mr Einar Agússon, Iceland's Foreign Minister, said the

British delegation wanted to discuss fishing within the old 50-mile limit while the Icelandic side only wanted to discuss fishing between 50 and 200 miles, the new limit which comes into force on October 15.

A Catch-22 situation is likely to arise over the EEC stipulation, repeated by Mr Hattersley, that import tariffs on Icelandic fish products would not be lowered on the situation of fishing disputes with member states.

Mr Mathias Bjarnason, Iceland's Fisheries Minister, said no agreement could be reached with EEC states until trade barriers came down.

Mr Hattersley said it was the duty of the foreign ministers of Britain and Iceland to prevent a new cod war. He hoped for a good result at the October meeting.

## Gen Haig wants arms embargo on Turkey lifted

From Our Special Correspondent

Mons, Sept 12

General Alexander Haig, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, appealed to the United States Congress today to lift its arms embargo on Turkey.

Speaking at a press conference at SHAPE headquarters in Mons, he said that the lack of spare parts for military equipment had affected the capability of the Turkish Army and that Ankara's decision to make over American bases in Turkey had indirectly affected Nato.

"I would urge and look forward to an early reversal of that embargo," General Haig said.

## EEC ministers welcome Middle East moves

From Peter Nichols

Venice, Sept 12

A call for increased momentum along the lines emerging from the Middle East situation and the Portuguese crisis to mark the end of the conference of foreign ministers from the nine countries comprising the European Community.

In his account tonight of the work of the conference, Signor Mariano Rumor, the Italian Foreign Minister, spoke of the Middle East as a "crucial

region for Europe and the world in general". He said that the second interim agreement between Israel and Egypt was welcomed by the ministers as an encouraging step forward.

They favoured the idea that a search for solutions was shortly to begin between Israel and Syria and expressed their conviction that progress in negotiations should be sustained to enable further substantial advances towards an overall peace settlement within the framework of the Geneva conference.

## valid tricycle repairs a 'scandal', AA says

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a copy of the Drive report, with full documentation, a week ago. But most invalid drivers interviewed by Drive requested anonymity, so their names and those of the garages were left out.

An AA official said yesterday that while it was still not prepared to release the names without consent, it hoped consent would be given so that the department's investigation could proceed.

Many invalid drivers fear that their vehicles may be taken away if they complain about them publicly. The tri-cycles are a controversial political issue, with some drivers claiming to have them banned on safety grounds.

The Drive report alleges that thousands of the tri-cycles, issued by the department to more than 20,000 disabled

drivers, are potential killers because of negligence and poor workmanship by officially approved repairers. Services schedules are ignored, and tri-cycles are often fitted with worn and defective parts from scrapped vehicles, it says.

Drivers were expected to sign statements declaring their satisfaction with the work before testing the vehicles. It was "common practice" for some garages to falsify invoices submitted to the department.

Drive criticises lack of supervision by the department's technical officers, and says that some tri-cycles are not even given an annual check. Yet yearly inspections were one reason why tri-cycles were exempted from the MOT test. Drive submitted an invalid tri-cycle, picked at random, and it failed the MOT test on 12

## Joint policy urged for training of climbers

By a Staff Reporter

The British Mountaineering Council is being urged by its training committee to take a lead in organizing training in British mountain areas.

The committee, under the chairmanship of Lord Hunt, was asked to look into the council's policy on training after years of conflict between private and official climbing schools, and the growing need to end the overuse of some mountain areas. It says in its report that the council should "take the initiative and accept the responsibility".

There should be a unified policy, the report states; and the source of policy-making should take account of the legitimate interests of those who enjoy mountaineering as a leisure pursuit and of those whose job is to introduce others to the pleasures and hazards of the mountains.

Responsibility for training fell logically on the council. "We see the way ahead in terms of improved communication between all parties concerned, and of closer co-ordination to harmonize the various interests involved."

Basic training courses in party leadership in the hills should continue, but the Mountain Leadership Training Board should provide more flexibility to cater for varying needs. More than one type of course should be offered and instead of awarding certificates, reports should be supplied on request briefly indicating the conditions under which the course took place and the student's strengths and weaknesses.

A basic element in mountaineering was the presence of serious "risk". Without that element it would lose something as vital as was competition in organized games, the report says.

"Those who go to the mountains of their own free will must be free to court these risks. Those who are being introduced to mountaineering must be safeguarded against accidents arising from exposure to risks which are beyond their experience and skill."

"At the same time, they should not be taught attitudes or practices which, by over-playing safety, may stultify enjoyment and restrict their ability to progress in climbing, with all its attendant challenges and opportunities. By becoming prevalent such attitudes and practices deprive mountaineering of its unique characteristics and charm."

The management committee of the British Mountaineering Council has accepted that statement in the report, and has invited discussion on the rest of the report and its recommendations before forming its policy.

## Tory choice

A company director, Mr Rupert Allison, aged 23, has been chosen as prospective Conservative candidate for Kettering, Northamptonshire. Kettering's Labour MP, Sir Geoffrey de Freitas, had a majority of 1,170 in the last general election.

## Village picket 'a challenge to law'

Villagers who prevented work starting on a scheme to build giant gas tanks near their homes had inflicted a defeat on law and order and democratic processes, a gas board chairman said yesterday.

Mr Dudley Fisher, chairman of Wales Gas, said the defiance of the people of Hirwaun, Mid-Glamorgan, who for more than two years picketed the gas tanks site and stopped contractors getting in, was to be deplored.

"They might be celebrating victory, but I would like to say a cautionary word," he said. "We obtained planning permission for these tanks in the proper way. There was a long public inquiry. We had the right to start the project, which is in the public interest, but the people physically stopped us doing our duty."

"They had a lot of publicity and they were portrayed as a small community standing up to a giant corporation. But their action was a direct challenge to the law, and I would think that other organisations which have to carry out large schemes are concerned today that the villagers seem to have got their way, and that others might feel they could follow Hirwaun's example."

Because the need for the tanks, each holding 20,000 tons of liquid gas, is pressing, Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, has asked the gas authorities to make a 50-acre site three miles further away. If that application is successful, and engineering surveys are favourable, the battle of Hirwaun will be resolved.

Meanwhile, Wales Gas retains its interest in the Hirwaun site, and as a precaution the villagers are maintaining the picket which they have operated on rota since July 12, 1973.

Although the people of Hirwaun based their opposition to the scheme on their fear of explosion, they also felt they were being trampled on. "We resented the implication that because their village was unlovely, it would not matter if 80ft gas tanks were built there," Mr Caerwyn Roderick, Labour MP for Brecon and Radnor, said yesterday. "We must always be concerned when democratic procedures are challenged, and I can understand the Wales Gas chairman's concern. But although legal right is on the gas board's side, there are moral obligations as well. We are dealing with people and their community. The gas authority should have done a better public relations job."

The National Union of Journalists yesterday welcomed the acquittal of a member, Mr David May, associate editor of Time Out, the magazine, at the Central Criminal Court on Thursday, but said that the prosecution case had alarming implications for journalists and the public interest.

Mr May was acquitted of dishonestly receiving a stolen French resident's permit when he obtained a news picture in a political kidnapping report. It was stated in court that a week after a Spanish banker had been kidnapped in Paris, his temporary resident's permit found its way to Mr May. Mr Michael Worsley, for the prosecution, said that although it was a matter of life and death, Mr May refused to tell the police where he obtained the permit.

Mr Kenneth Morgan, the union's general secretary, who was a defence witness, said yesterday: "The really alarming aspect of this case and this trial is the disclosure that Mr May would not have been prosecuted on this charge if he had

been prepared to reveal the name of the contact from whom he received the permit. The protection of confidential sources is a basic tenet of journalism. We recognise that there are times, happily rare, when the journalist's duty to his profession and to the general public interest to maintain confidentiality may conflict with a demand to him by a court to reveal his source."

At that point only the journalist's conscience, weighing all the factors, could resolve the matter. "The courts recognize this dilemma and generally try to avoid placing journalists in it. The position of journalists becomes intolerable if they are to be threatened: 'reveal your source or we will prosecute you for dishonestly receiving'."

Mr May's acquittal presumably diminishes that new danger. It will be welcomed by all journalists.

Mr May will have to pay £500 legal costs, his application for initial defence costs, which were not covered by legal aid, having been refused.

Change of school Lady Helen Windsor, aged 11, daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Kent, will start as a pupil at St Mary's Convent Girls' School, Wantage, Oxfordshire, next Tuesday. She was formerly at school in London.

Clearing Avon Gorge Blasting began yesterday in a £280,000 project to clear the Avon Gorge of rocks threatening the A4 Portway road linking Bristol to Avonmouth docks and the M5. The Portway has been closed for 13 months.

Which will you turn to first this Sunday?



## THE OBSERVER

14 SEPTEMBER 1975

With Colour Magazine

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Katharine Whitehorn • Clive James • Bernard Levin • Angus Wilson • Christopher Brasher







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Dezville  
oyal-Oal

day September 13 1975

THE TIMES  
SATURDAY REVIEW

# The beach at Santa Barbara

by Edmund Wilson

Edmund Wilson, the critic, philosopher, novelist, became increasingly attached to Santa Barbara and his trip to California that year was a visit to her. He in a beachhouse near here and here rewrites the part of *I Thought of You*. He also was gathering certain poems, both were to be published by the editor, EW wrote: "I little house here on the sand have done nothing, d. write and swim. The is beautiful and all is exactly alike. The affic spaces are excellent work—I always feel in New York. But if need out here very long.

you would probably cease to write anything, because you would cease to think—it isn't necessary out here and the natives regard it as morbid." Earlier in the year he had written Perkins (June 9, 1928) when he was working on *Days at Red Bank*: "It is the sort of thing that has to come off completely or it is likely to be impossible. I mean that, from beginning to end, I have made characters and incidents and situations subordinate to a set of ideas about life and literature, and unless the ideas are really put over, unless they are made interesting enough to compensate the reader for what he is missing in action and emotion, for what he ordinarily gets in a novel, the whole performance will fail."

**Barbara, October, 1928.**  
A bright rather cold day, the banks of the white clouds behind the mountains are seen against the sheer blue of the sky. The mountains themselves, though less, are as distinct as wrappings of tan on dark back of a snake. A fat following of clouds the heads of the mountain one curious evening, ten just in the sunset looked like something stuffed and made of eather—they were not, a occasion, behind the line heads, I guess, but the tops of the mountain which were lost in them. White card tower of the white, plucking its flat surfaces against the flat sky.

lovely watercolour of everything in Southern California—the flowers, bougainvilleas, acacias, like tiny packs of cells—beauty of a fall in this Californian sun a slight smack of cold and the clarity of the sky, grass, trees and is slightly heightened. The faces of the women have watercolour quality, too—reds, garnets—worn without smartness—a view unchildren at recess—colours seem so prettily easily washed on, they wild like the flowers. I think of the flowers, I think of my beachhouse—its beautifully woven blankets, on which the sun would fall in the night, when I would awake, their weight—the cold night had been white walls—Indian fireplaces—window seats much to our surprise, out to have very cushions—an Indian red clay and white dance, drawing an effaced saint with seven through her heart—a German angel hearing a tick—the sea grey window, with its red and on white Indian rug, colours both soft and in late afternoon, the washed along the mountain Pale withered trunks of work-light, woven in the drop of a very green—Margarita's old place, against the screen of the drive, a ray of Japanese yellow among the broom bristled-like stiff leaves. fuming, the awakened of the blue, bringing the down from the mountain heard at night going out the beach.

me in a paper bag—one on in taking it out car—"Those synopses ing like snakes."

Dougherty spoke of California—"You could only see a shadow, you know!" Carmel the sea was interesting—an occasional wave.

ita Barbara to Los Ventura—the big California coastline in an elevated site—stare hills, against the winter sky (mid-), its grey-green surprised by pale markings showing through in the pines and dotted with its pearl-silver cylinders—kind of gas or oil Rabbitties: sign in all of rabbit, duck and Mike's Tavern: Poinch. Red poinsettias, and lovely red. Barbecue lunch atmosphere of food plenty—all kinds places to eat: Trading ncle Tom's Cabin (in one), Old Stage Inn, Swiss Chalet, Wigwam—coloured grass—an element of titious and shimmering almost as soon leaves Santa Barbara, id high yellow gasation—blue and white vocado Acres. Walnut valley groves—compactly effect of even-bunches—fine iron branches on short stalks—a sort of n their round immobi-

lity—the palms, on the other hand, have intricate personalities—they are somehow not what one expects of trees, but give the impression, like sea anemones or molluscs, of being too rudimentary a form of life—they lack personality—they vegetate where they are rooted unaffected by the wind.—The Canajo Grade—Migs taking the dangerous curves with a dashing dash. (Migs was a close friend of Margaret's. They had run a hat shop together.)—On the trip before, Margaret was always having to wait for long trucks—the kind in several sections—slowly transporting pipes—truckloads of beans—the beanfields—Lion farms.—The speckled hills, round and dry.—Real estate developments: fantastic headquarters of real estate companies: one of them a sort of grotesque castle, with a high Nurembergian roof, which looked as if it had come out of a comic drawing.—Movie constructions on a distant hill.—A great, brightly painted wooden sign, covered with comic figures, which looked like the facade to some amusement park, but which, behind it, had nothing apparently—merely some private houses—the whole fantastic approach to Hollywood. The French Village—the little bogus villas and castles in the hills—the houses on both sides of the street probably the most absurd series of residences in the world—a doorway shaped like the entrance to a tomb and in the same house I think a silver statue in bas-relief—Hollywood-Bysantine.—The goofy plaster statues advertising things: which is the ghost?—the bellboy with the suitcase and the idiot grin—the Inn of Arc of the Hotel Normandie—the old Southern gentlemen with the wide trousers, beard and moustache, advertising coffee—the rather weird silver dancing couple—the rooster—the mother and child with the cow, who have become discoloured so that, instead of looking wholesome and reassuring, they have a somewhat sinister appearance, the mother looking more like a witch.—The big orange booth shaped like an orange—the ice-cream cone booth, with four enormous and phallic papier-mache ice-cream cones at the corners, pink, chocolate and white. Fantasy reaches its climax in Los Angeles itself in a curious way—high white buildings as one goes up a hill, undoubtedly merely an office building, not actually built, but drawn for fancy or funny effect—everything seems papier-mache.—Pickford and Fairbanks's former residence—fountain and white lions—"They've got everything!"

The day I arrived, as I left the Nervines house (a good example of a fancy and attractive Southern Californian house), the sky above the palm trees and the white Los Angeles houses was screaming diamond in a bright brief Pacific day end—we had had some drinks—my moments of elation.



Illustration by Janet Woolley

smack the beach with intolerable force. A lizard that looked like Ted. A white condom floating on the surf. The constant twinkling line of lights at Carpentaria—and the twinkling of the stars in that quarter. The dead coots and comorants, with necks bent under breasts turned up or with necks snapped off or with only the whitened vertebrae, divested of flesh and feathers, trailing on the beach. Dead rats—gophers. Large gulls—when you go near them, they merely walk a little way and stop again. The black coots that live on sand crabs and get so fat that they are overbalanced by their breasts and can't get enough leverage either to walk or fly—they can only flop on their long black feet, straining with helpless ridiculous wings. The pelicans. Sandpipers scooting along the beach. The sea pigeons, smaller than a gull. The empty carapaces of sea crabs—lan-pousters. Opalescent abalone shells. At Sandyland, the opalescent sea crawling on the long shallow beach. The killdeer. The sandpipers—like Tiller girls, they perform evolu-

lutions in perfect unison all make for the waves, then all right turn, then all stop and simultaneously stick their bills in the sand—then, if alarmed, all together rise and fly, making a white flock of exact coniform carats, against the sea or the sky. The dogs on the beach—making the rounds—bulldog, wolf dog, Scotty, mongrels—the last very humble. The English whippet trainer—two whippets and a whippet pup—the pup thicker-limbed and clumsy, but soon grew to the whippet slenderness—one could see the change in a month—the grown whippets running to the trainer, undulations of yellow against the pale brown sand—the trainer, always trim, always fit, looking neither to right nor left, knowing his place, never speaking or nodding to any of the people on the beach, not speaking even when spoken to by people who saw him every day and thought that they should salute him—so that they finally gave up attempting to. The people passing on horse back or breaking horses in—

blue, and the islands are blue against the sun's pink, against the western sky. An earthly paradise—a little soft and cloying—the seascapes are bon-bons for the eye. The lobster fishers with their boat. The elderly man camping, building a fire, apparently living in a crevice of the cliff. The remains—the rusted twisted skeleton—of the motorcar that fell over the cliff. The silence from the cliff where the baby was thrown down. The occasional boats—one of them represented a small company which had undertaken to extract iodine from the kelp, but had never particularly prospered. The children—the cunning little twins—"cute as bugs' ears". Old ladies passing, taking regular constitutional strolls. Santa Barbara Beach. The boom of guns—the rumbling up of caissons—crash or rattle of musketry.—The long shattering crash of the shore—even these more violent manifestations, as a result of their following on each other at vacant intervals, have a featureless quality—they do not speak. In December, for the first time, on a day when the rain set in, it got a grey wintry look—Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa came matted to seem bleak.—The empty sound of the Pacific. In the midst of the steady uneventful downpour on the roof, Margaret said: "A real spell of hell—burry—it's the first in years".—Then, as suddenly, after the brief onset, spare single stories of faint and soft and mild, almost divine away—then brushing harder, falling faster—relenting—banging heavily—blown up and down, fast and soft—crashing, sprinkling, more or less brisk—merging with the rainfall, setting in, forgotten. The Miramar. Old-fashioned Californian hotel—dark low-ceilinged interiors—screen doors—old ladies and gentlemen sitting around—library where each guest left a volume or two—always a fire in the fireplace in the darkish room, full of mission furniture. Our walk to Sandyland—we started off right—I talked furiously. The elaborate and rather far-reaching system of interrelated oil wells, with their feelers for sub-sea-bottom oil, quietly moving up and down—a few shacks where the operators lived—against the sky like a Pennell drawing. The stretch of sheltered beach, walled around with yellow rocks. We sat down on a log and had lunch and had some more swigs out of the whiskey pint bottle full of cocktails mixed with grapefruit juice. The stone wall looked as if it had been made of the stage rocks in the old Metropolitan productions of Wagner's Ring. The real estate developments—a sea where everything was sloopy, in process of being suburbanized, always a lot of tacky Fordes. Margaret in her brown bathing suit, becoming to her and pretty against the brownish yellow rocks and pale brown sand—the sea and Jersey that went over it of a slightly warmer purplish brown—the bathing suit had an irregular streaked design—her plump little figure in her bathing suit with her pretty legs—plung round thighs and small bonny feet. We went out low tide and came back high tide. The birds and other things seemed to take on a new interest and value. Hat prehistoric black and white at Sandyland—when I tried to hook it over her shoulder, the little rusted hooks and even broke off. She finally tied it, and when she went surfing in it, it exposed her pink bottom. Holes in the porch where she had practised pistol shooting as a girl. Opalescent slow sea—bigger waves breaking only far out—more primitive, wilder, more lonely. The dark bare-wood inside of the beachhouse—it was grown around with wild purple-flowered spinach, with its coarse beach-grown foliage flame purple blossoms. The background of rugged blackened hills, the rampart. I watched her sliding the surfboard along the shallow beach following the wave's white foam, black it bathing in the sand—the long rollers—On the way back, clambering on the smooth stones, where the waves were already breaking—I looked back once and saw the pale yellow cliff powdering into the pale blue ocean behind us, where night was soon to fall. She remembered, when we went back the next day, that the day before, when we were tight, we had felt sorry for ourselves because we did not have enough to drink. We had declared that the next time we came we would bring two bottles of cocktails. "Well, you're not tight today"—"I didn't think I was yesterday either." Stepped on her toes and hurt them badly when I tried to kiss her, stepping her, standing among the stones, on our strenuous but exalted return. I kept saying that I did not know whether I had told her how much I liked her, how fond I was of her, etc.—Our cocktails, greenish light, in green teacups. Her blue and white rubber beach shoes. Her short figure standing sturdily with bare legs among the stones—against the

California cliffs. Her breasts showing solid though hollow, with nipples plain, under her wet bathing suit, when she was up from sunbathing. Unpopularity of Albert Einstein (I had known him at Hill School)—his elaborate beachhouse—the large outbuilding with mosque-like minarets—exactly like a movie set—she was a sort of gymnast where he tried to get thin, in order to look more attractive—he had all this money—he thought the parents felt terribly about him. Her footprints in the sand, as we came back from beyond Sandyland, with their firm little imprint of the ball of the foot.—Exploding kelp bulbs—snapping kelp pods, underfoot. The green dams of kelp mat on the sand.—Written eucalyptus trunks bleached bone-white, like fantastic animal skulls.—The mass of myriad swimming black fly miles rising from a brown kelp sponge.—The empty reddish canyons of a lobster, the antennae trailing limp, straight and rigid.—Workman reading a mystery magazine on the rocks. The trains—the Pacific, the men who shoot birds from the trains—made my window rumble in a faint firm vibration—th sound of a double pistol shot behind my house, whenever the train went by—not anyone shouting, however, I think. The single track—the train's cry, always the same. From the Hoffmann beachhouse to town. The long continuous row of bathhouses of the beach club—then the private houses, mostly in dark faded brownish or greenish wood, like grudging old high-pitched chalets—or with their projecting upper stories and large rectangular curvilinear windows like the body of a puppet or Punch and Judy shows—occasionally a white one standing out sharply among them—dark spruces rising above them—La Marea, El Mar, La Honda. Blue-shirted Mexican men wide-eyed, hats spending their lunch hour on a wall.—A woman on the sand, with a Japanese parasol—an old tyre—curious little house with flat shingled roof and octagonal tower, which looked as if it had been made of a brown husks of old cigars, with green moss growing in the cracks.—The Rammonds' house, large low and rather ugly raw yellow tint, with its high swinging embowed in palms.—Tall aloë stalks with their flowers like wrought-iron work, delicate, exact and stiff against the flat blue sky—stiff tendrils.—An open stretch—the mountains brown and friable, streaked with reds against the sooty discolouration of forest fires. Coarse banks of ice plant—ice plant crawling down over embankment or cliff.—The Elmiras: imposing red-brick bungalows at intervals—the American flag—a low white Spanish building roofed with tiles of dull rose.—A mother with a child wading in the surf—springy range Californian young woman. California-burnt and dressed in old jersey with wide burnt red stripes.—Eroded cliffs of clay—the formless fallen boulder of yellow pudding-stoned soil—dislodged no doubt by the earthquake.—The round and hollow rock of the beach—the slimy silty margin left by receding waves—its film mirroring blue. The rust-crested beam of a wreck. Dark trees—above the cliffs—the grey unsavoury board of palms, an oppressive disproportionate weight. Noonday and the beach and sea, empty, bright and dry.—We came out opposite the children's playground (the building in light bright pink with slides, swings and benches)—at the bird refuge—the stinking mire where they were draining it (a large enclosed space on rise of the ground to the right)—birds hold conventions in the open there—birds with a "squeaky cry"—pink villas on the friable clay hills—black spots as motionless as decays on the dark sheets of the dark mire-bottomed puddles.—Sinister roadhouse, with indistinct picture of racers under high peaked roof—lit up with coloured bulbs like a Christmas tree at night. A slender child in a white hat and pale suit, which made it look almost as if it were a plaything on the playground—apparently eating a lollipop.—The broad railroad place, where Reggy Fernald, having run his car on the beach one night, tried to send for a locomotive.—The yellow string of the freight car of the Pacific Fruit Express, with stars-and-stripes shield on each, bending away from the road along an easy curve.—The lamp-spruded bright grey walk of the boulevard—a small grove of palms—some of them are people riding. A signboard or two with a bright cigarette advertisement—the memorial tablet to Carlin—the car tracks—the lightly orange gasoline station: the main street of the town. This extract is from *The Twenties* by Edmund Wilson, edited by Leon Edel, which will be published by Macmillan on September 25 at £7.50. © Edmund Wilson. Executed by the Estate of Edmund Wilson, 1975.















## Chess

## The sound and the fury

quence of noise (both its and its absence) on ornaments has not as a made the subject of a study. But I would that if there is a chess student who wishes to the world of chess he o worse than to devote a study of the sub- his PhD. It is patently nt to play chess pro- spectively when inter- tournaments are con- it is vital to have a a silence as possible, a nature being what it ong as you have more a person in the playing ere exists the danger of ed conversation that e seems to swell to a he sensitive ears of the chess-master. Bobby in particular, blessed d with a sense of heav- t might be useful in the existence of sub- at great depth, has fected to people speak- ly he is playing. And uring the great battle jack in 1972 he com- to the organizers that in the back row of itorium was snoring. e found it insulting y or merely disturbing quite clear. In any expedition was promptly ed to the deepest of the hall but it failed any evidence of sound- indeed everyone in k row seemed suspici- wake. My own that it was one of the loth policemen who rinked round the hall, feasible enough.

Fischer's objection to audience noise at Reykjavik was not confined to their snoring. The above-mentioned student would be well advised to take that remarkable occasion as the chief source for his data and evidence concerning this sonorous subject.

There was the terrifying sound, rather like that of a horde of Valkyries, issuing from the unwrapping of the paper surrounding boiled sweets by some 300 children. There was the curious sound resembling a series of small explosions created by the entry into the auditorium from the buffet of various spectators and this despite the fact that the doors were manned by stewards who prevented too frequent or noisy a use of the entrances and exits.

Though it is odd that Fischer's hyper-sensitivity to noise increased as he approached world status there is no doubt that he has done much to raise the standards of good conditions for play. There are few (if any) great tournaments nowadays in which great care is not taken to ensure that the players are not hampered by any considerations other than those over the board. So chess-players of all classes have good reason to be grateful to Fischer for his stern and uncompromising stand in this respect.

It might be interesting to inquire how the Alexander Memorial tournament, which is being played at Middlesbrough as I write these lines, compares with Fischer's ideas. The answer must be a qualified one. No player has as yet complained that the room in which the tournament is being played is too noisy or dark. And yet I doubt very much whether Fischer would have approved of the occasion noise that comes in when a bus or a lorry passes by on the main road outside. He would, too, I think, have found the spectators uncomfortably close; all the more so in that Fischer did complain of this at Reykjavik, despite the considerable gap between him and the audience.

One chess-master, too, has complained against the glossy nature of the chess-boards especially when we have the artificial lights on. This appears to have been a genuine complaint since it was made after the said chess-player had won a game against a grandmaster.

But, by and large, the players are well satisfied with their conditions of play.

White: Bronstein Black: Keene Catalan System

I-P-Q4

The opening move of the tournament was made by Sir Stuart Milner-Barry on this board and Bronstein, in deference to Staunton and Alexander, played the first move of the English Opening, though, later on, this transposed to the Catalan System.

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## My happy days with a Nanny in the family

Like the British Colonial Empire, the English Nanny, a prized and venerable institution, has virtually disappeared during my lifetime. Emily Townsend, my Nanny, was born 103 years ago. Her working life of 70 years started when she became a nursemaid to the household of Lady Agnes Cooper, the mother of Alfred Duff Cooper, later Viscount Norwich, former Cabinet Minister and Ambassador in Paris. From here she joined a family called Fox and the well known actor William Fox was the eldest of three children whom she brought up.

By the time she came to us, she was over 30 years old, although my mother believed that she was only 45. She was with us, looking after my two sisters Jane and Frances and me, from here she joined a family called Fox and the well known actor William Fox was the eldest of three children whom she brought up.

From then until 1939 she went back to the Fox family as Nanny to Amanda, the daughter of William, her eldest son. She briefly returned to look after my two-year-old half-brother Roddy Time, the son of my mother's third marriage. For 15 years thereafter she kept house for Hubert Fox, the youngest of the first generation of Fox children whom she had brought up, until his tragic death in a bicycle accident. By then she was 65. She had spent her entire working life with three families.

She did not speak much of Duff Cooper, although from time to time she would tell my mother of what Lady Haines Cooper (as she habitually called her) would or would not have approved. Of the Fox family we heard a great deal more; indeed she nursed my father in his last days, and her devoted William Fox was given one of his first stage parts in my father's play *The Lady with a Lamp*.

By the time that she came to us, when I was a few months old, she was fairly old in her ways and views, but by no means too old to turn her hand to new tasks. In times of penny war she would do the cooking. Her fish cakes and her cottage pie were works of culinary genius. She also turned her attention to the garden, a modest three acres, for which my father employed a full time gardener. Many an ailing plant which Simmons, our gardener, had given up as dead, came to life under her confident touch.

Nanny preferred to call me John, my second name, until forbidden to do so by my parents. Thereafter, until her death she always called me "Umphry". Because she suspected that my sister Jane was my mother's favourite child she always referred to her as "that Jane", particularly when speaking of her to my mother, and the words were heavy with rebuke. When we were grown up she was equally fond of us all.

Remind me, is the Algerian wine French or Italian?

Although she did not marry, Nanny never gave the impression of being unfulfilled. She was foster mother to at least 10 children. I loved her deeply and last saw her three months after her 90th birthday and three months before she died in 1962. She barely knew me but I sat with her and held her hand for half an hour. I waited for three months for the dreaded letter to come from her place. "Auty passed away at 6.20 am this morning." She gave no much and asked for nothing in return. She gave the purest form of love, undisturbed by any thought of reward. It was returned in full measure by all to whom it was given and this was, I believe, the true fulfilment of Emily Townsend.

Because she was, in the last resort, a family banker (often lending my father the money for his train fare to London) frequently the cook by default, and had an undefined sphere of influence over the garden, she would often speak to my parents in the same terms as she spoke to us, terms of unmistakable authority. This would amuse my father and infuriate my mother with some reason since she was the mistress of the house to whom the world would hand in her notice every month.

Once it was accepted and my sisters and I cried incessantly until Nanny came back.

If Nanny had been born later, and had received a proper education, she would have been a most formidable lady. As I have grown older I have come to realize the sturdy common sense of her aphorisms, and I am sometimes tempted to invent for her a role which she might, in different circumstances, have occupied in public life.

"I would rather keep you a week than a fortnight" (said accompanied by an unattractive, disapproving smile, denotes an ability to distinguish between the authentic and the phoney which would not come amiss at Scotland Yard. "Those who ask don't get and those who don't ask don't want." Few dogs could philosophise so succinctly.

I do not, in fact, believe that Nanny held dogmatic political views. On two occasions, in the general elections of 1929 and 1931, she was quite convinced that she had voted for my father in Merion, where we lived, despite the fact that he was contesting constituencies in Scotland. She firmly crossed out the names of the candidates on the ballot papers and wrote instead "Captain Basil Davidson". The presiding officer of the polling station, on each occasion, warned her that her vote would be spoiled.

He received the sharp edge of Nanny's tongue and I can see her now emerging from the polling station red with indignation. "The cheek of it, trying to tell me who to vote for. I've a good mind to report him to the police."

Nanny lived and died a spinster at the age of 90. When discussing romance and marriage ("one of these days Mr. Right will come along, dear") with my sisters, a benevolent twinkle would come into her eye. For the 15 years, when she was housekeeper to Hubert Fox, she lived in the same London mews as my mother and so we saw her daily. She came to the wedding of both my sisters. I often wondered whether 60 or 70 years earlier she had been "dated" by a boy from her native Oxfordshire. She was reticent about her youth but full of dark hints to my sisters about "wrong uns". Though innocent, she was surprisingly worldly and once astounded and displeased my mother by calling a current female acquaintance of my mother's "one of the hottest women in town"—a description which was, perhaps, not entirely untrue.

Humphry Berkeley

## For his own sake, Mr Heath's personal record must be put straight

George Hutchinson

Some of Mr Heath's closest friends would like him to write a book about the late Conservative government, rather than Mr Wilson did after his first administration (though not, I trust, on quite the same monumental scale). Alternatively, or even perhaps in addition, they hope that someone else may be encouraged to produce a sympathetic account. Their feelings are easily understood, for these friends are anxious lest his achievements should be lost from memory in the space of published criticism now overtaking his record as Prime Minister.

Other influences apart, the two biographies of Mrs Thatcher that have just appeared are exceedingly unhelpful to Mr Heath's reputation—and both are written by Conservatives of some standing. One is Mr Russell Little, a former—and very able—director of the Conservative Political Centre; the other is Mr George Gardiner, MP for Reigate. Nor will this be the end; a third biography is seen to follow, by Mr Eric Mince, who was the Tory MP for Ipswich. If Mr Heath is cross with Messrs Little and Gardiner, he will be equally cross with Mr Mince from that I hear. All in all, he is having a rough time.

Could he hope to offer these misfortunes by putting pen to paper himself? Some who know him well are inclined to doubt it. They recognize the dangers inherent in his apparent inability to acknowledge error or misjudgment of his own and fear the consequences of a grandiose exercise in self-justification.

But for this unhappy tendency, they would argue, Mr Heath might be at the head of the Conservative Party. If only he had accepted, after the double defeat of February and October, 1974, that he might occasionally have been wrong, the leadership contest need not have taken place. So the theory goes; supported by some of his old Cabinet colleagues, it is probably true. After all, most people are responsive, sometimes to the point of indifference, to anyone who can admit his own mistakes. But that was more than Mr Heath could bring himself to do. From a person of his standing, such an admission might have proved irrevocable. The Conservatives do not desire their leaders to admit or acknowledge error.

All this may seem harsh, but it represents part of a larger reality. Mr Heath would probably

come out better from a book by someone else—someone sympathetic but able to write about the term as Conservative leader and Prime Minister with more detachment, thereby doing him greater justice than he could do himself. His premiership is entitled to "a good book", as his friends would say. Nobody better placed to write a qualified one is by virtue of proximity, knowledge and literary skill.

Since February, when Mrs Thatcher dismissed Mr Heath, I have understood that she was engaged in "re-forming" the Tory Party, in the sense of formulating a set of mutually consistent principles and organising the organization. I still believe this to be true. Yet we are now presented with a new "Tory Reform Group", a new set of principles and a new old document and a much older (if unrepresentative) banner, *Disraeli's One Nation*.

If these ideas are to support and sustain the elected leader, and uphold the Shadow Cabinet's policies while stimulating the party, well and good. If, on

the other hand, they are not to divert Mrs Thatcher from her considered purposes and detach her from the so-called Tory right, then they are likely to fail. For one thing, her convictions, widely endorsed, are stronger than these, and she is the lady in possession. For another, they may split the party and cost it the next election.

But then some of them (I do not say all) are continually at heart. Unlike Mrs Thatcher, they have lost the will to govern on their own and are closer nowadays to Mr Roy Jenkins. Some at least, no doubt from the best of motives, are to be numbered among the agents of a national government: a conception to which Mrs Thatcher and her chosen colleagues are understandably opposed.

There are many ways of describing the present administration, not all of them polite. Among other things, I think this is a complement, it could be called a pamphlet-writing government.

You will remember the FIC pamphlets (for and against) during the referendum campaign a few short months ago. Now we have *Attack on Inflation: A Policy for Survival*—again delivered to every household in

the country. There are many others of more limited circulation, directed to particular targets or interests.

In no mind, one of the most impressive is a four-page leaflet about the risk of rabies, that has kept away from Britain by our quarantine regulations. I have no idea who wrote it for the Ministry of Agriculture, but my guess is the anonymous author. He who has produced a reliable warning, for the sheep, is now seriously threatened by people smuggling animals into the country. It needs to be more widely known that the infection is spreading from Eastern Europe and has reached Northern France.

Pamphlet-writing is an old-fashioned form of explanation, and none the less it has proved itself a valuable weapon in the hands of the Government. But then the Government's information services are increasingly better than their critics make out. Like other branches of the Civil Service, their work is done in a quiet, unobtrusive way, often blamed for what are really ministerial faults.

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## Shirley MacLaine: Searching for a role in society

"If I weren't already doing three things at once, I'd make myself do them," said Shirley MacLaine, film star, writer, and film director. She is here for the publication of her second volume of memoirs, *You Can Get There From Here* (Bodley Head, £2.95), a continuation of *Don't Fall Off the Mountain*, and for the television showing of the film she directed of her visit to China in 1973, *The Other Half of the Sky: A China Memoir*.

She led a delectation of women chosen, it might seem, to represent various themes in American life—a film star; a black woman from Mississippi; an office worker from Texas who supported Mr George Wallace; a Puerto Rican writer and anthropologist; a Navaho Indian; a psychologist; a Republican housewife; and a team of four women film makers. For them it was a revelation of a way of life so different from their own that they all felt changed by the experience.

Western upbringing is directed towards competition, acquisition and success and happiness are frequently sought with money and status. Though Shirley MacLaine's political views really have no party angle, she supported Senator McGovern in his ill-fated presidential campaign, and there is a sad account in her book of her disillusionment with politics.

Competition, the will to succeed as an individual, the reasons for choosing a marriage partner—all the western values have no value in China. "All the people I know who have gone to China to see a new society working for its people have been overjoyed, depressed, resentful, angry, upset and sad. Almost everywhere, at one point they break down in tears. That's why I found it so fascinating."

The women were particularly struck by the lack of competition in the schools, where no one was encouraged to win. "I came to understand that the struggle meant in a country with 200,000,000 people in the same land area as the United States—four times as many people as in America. There is the image of a chain of 800,000,000 people, which is only as strong as its weakest link. She feels that by eliminating emphasis on individual achievement, there is, in a way, even more emphasis on the individual as an essential part of society."

"The Chinese are a lot like the Americans—open, naive and friendly, hospitable and trusting. Every time I meet a post-revolutionary Chinese I feel I am meeting an old friend."

Humour and directness are an essential part of Shirley MacLaine, and she says that not everything went well with the delegation, and her book chronicles the cultural and personal shock an alien society made on people who, in some cases, had never left the United States before. She also found it disconcerting in China that there was no role specified for the creative artist, except in the service of the state.

She is also thinking about her own role in society. For 25 years she has been a film star, and ever since she made the first of 25 films, *Alfred Hitchcock's The Trouble with Harry*, at the age of 20—stepping boldly forward, as once and for all, in a speech that covered 15 pages of script—she has been questioning the place women have in films. At the moment, she feels, no one in the industry knows what to do. In her books she discusses the television sets she made for Sir Lew Grade. The story was to be of a jour-

nal, "the kind of woman I am. They did quite a lot of market research and found that people didn't mind the women having lovers and affairs, and wanted her to be free-wheeling and to go around the world like me getting into trouble and getting out of it."

An executive said: "If you want to be that kind of woman, you have to pay the price." And the price was MacLaine's discovery of the price was children—a free woman of that kind would have to support an orphanage to provide something or other. She was also startled by the script, which provided the free-wheeling character with a right-wing boss and a left-wing boy friend. The series was not a success.

She has a theory that while the Hays office was alive and censoring films, Rosalind Russell, Katherine Hepburn and Barbara Stanwyck were able to play women with careers because their sex lives could not be indicated. Now that standards have changed, women are kept in the bedroom, because film makers cannot see their way to making films showing career women who also have sex lives, and that is why Liza Minnelli, Jane Fonda and Barbara Streisand, though excellent actresses, are making no remarkable films.

Nor, come to that, is she, though at the moment she is involved in *Amelia Earhart*, the American woman pilot.

For this she is learning to fly. "I found I was more interested in taking the plane apart than I was in what kept it up in the air. I was very scared of flying, and I didn't experience that feeling of complete freedom that other people do—perhaps I will when I go up alone. What I really kept thinking was that I will break a leg and I won't be able to go on. I was learning to fly

at the same time that I was appearing in Las Vegas."

Three things at a time again (she was also acting 45 hours of material into the film on China), but her life had been changed, as she says in her book. "After contact with a society that was communist, that smothered its creative culture, and saw art only as a way of serving the revolution, I began again to think about being an artist. So she went back to her beginnings as a dancer and singer."

"Shirley," said Hutchinson, in those early days, "you have the guts of a bank robber." And so it proved, in putting together a show herself called *If My Friends Could See Me Now* and appearing on stage at Las Vegas, after 20 years. Adapted for television, the show was several awards. Unfortunately it has not been shown in Britain.

She is in the middle of planning another show at the moment, and is writing a novel. "I love to write. I write usually from 12 midnight until five in the morning, when the phone has stopped ringing, and then sleep from five until 11. Six hours is plenty of sleep. I need to work, it's part of my character. My upbringing is the Protestant work ethic, and I'm a terminal Protestant."

With the novel, the film, the television show, and a long-term plan to go back to China and talk at length to Madame Chou En-lai, Shirley MacLaine is happy, doing three things at once. She is left, was debating whether she could get to David Hare to play *Fences* and have dinner with two lots of friends, one early, one late. With so much grace, charm and goodwill, she managed it beautifully. I am sure.

Philippa Toomey

## The perfect professional, setting an example on and off the pitch



Ian Callaghan: turns aside comment on his calm temperament.

● This afternoon Ian Callaghan will be working at Ipswich. As far as possible, given that some 30,000 people will be watching, he will do his job unobtrusively and with relatively little visible emotion. By the end of the day he will have a few aches and bruises. Tomorrow his photograph might be in the newspapers and his name in headlines. More probably, however, he will be a less disciplined or more flamboyant will attract the publicity. That will permit Ian Callaghan, professional footballer of Liverpool FC, a quiet family Sunday work in the light of the exacting standards he has set himself over the past 15 years.

In football's present overheated atmosphere it might be thought difficult to play in the first division and remain unaffected by hysteria of one kind or another. Many players parentally cannot. Some, in this week's action, take beyond acceptable limits the licence that is often allowed to the gifted. Callaghan is an exception at the other extreme, mature, wholly admirable, extraordinary only in his ordinariness. If parents of a prospective Liverpool apprentice professional show misgivings, Callaghan is the example quoted to reassure them.

"There's no use pretending all footballers are angels," says Bob Paisley, the Liverpool manager. "A youngster is bound to hear bad language, flying about, and that can make a boy think that being loud-mouthed is half the battle. When that

happens, I tell him to look at Callaghan and study the way he conducts himself. He enjoys himself but he doesn't overdo it. He likes a drink but he doesn't have to go and get drunk."

Over the years, Callaghan has not wanted for reasons to celebrate. In 1974, the Football Writers' Association elected him to a list which was adding his name to a list which includes Stanley Matthews, Billy Wright, Tom Finney, Danny Blanchflower, Bobby Charlton, Gordon Banks and Bobby Moore. In the 1975 New Year Honours, he was awarded the MBE. More directly, Callaghan has won three league championship medals, two FA Cup winners' medals and a UEFA Cup winner's medal. He has also played twice for England.

"When he came to us as a teenager," says Paisley, "he had no real genius for the game. As a schoolboy, Callaghan played for the city team but was never chosen for Lancashire. When he joined Liverpool he trained on only two evenings a week while continuing an apprenticeship as a central heating engineer. 'But he had a great love for the game', Paisley adds. He worked at being good at it and he lived well within his means."

Good living in the terms preached repeatedly by Paisley's celebrated predecessor, Bill Shankly, means a puritanical dedication to mental and physical fitness. Callaghan, who had been associated with the club for only a few months before Shankly's

## Sportsview

At a time when footballers are becoming increasingly criticized for their behaviour, there are still players who are beyond reproach both on and off the pitch.

One of them is Liverpool's Ian Callaghan.

arrival, is a product of that philosophy. His appearance record, taken over the last 12 years, with a possible 42 league games per season, speaks for itself.

In the first, third and tenth of those seasons, when Callaghan played in every match, Liverpool were league champions. 1970-71 provides the one black period of Callaghan's career. An operation for the removal of a cartilage kept him out of the team from mid-September until Boxing Day. When he returned he played badly.

The confidence just wasn't there and nothing seemed to go right," he recalls. "Then the

crowd started to get on my back and I didn't know how to cope with that."

There was managerial concern, too. Shankly sent Bob Paisley and Joe Fagan (now the club's assistant manager) to look at Callaghan as a possible replacement for Chris Lawton. The "unknown" was Kevin Keegan, now an established member of the England side. At Liverpool he has replaced Callaghan only in taking over the older player's forward role, relegating Callaghan to become a key figure in midfield.

"The way he overcame that setback," says Paisley, "is an example to the whole game. I thought it might finish him, but that was when he really showed his character." Now 33, Callaghan retains the enthusiasm of a teenager. "I can honestly say I love training. I enjoy being one of a bunch of great lads. And it means a lot to be really fit, to know I can go out there and run hard and keep going for 90 minutes. The ordinary man couldn't do that, and that puts me above the ordinary man. Because I'm super-fit." And then, as though sensing that he may have been immodest, he adds: "All professionals are."

Stanley, Callaghan believes, is a lucky natural gift for which he can take no special credit. Similarly, he turns aside comment on his calm temperament. This summer, on a pre-season tour of Germany, he was cautioned for the only time in his career. "The referee said it was

a late tackle, but it wasn't really. There'd been a few incidents and I think he felt he needed to book someone to get on top but he didn't report it and nothing came of it."

Commonsense, if not the evidence of his current form, argues that Callaghan's playing career cannot last for only another two or three seasons. When it ends he will not stray in the game. Coaching and management hold no attraction for him. "Some players can tell you the name of everyone in the first division," he says with genuine admiration, "but I couldn't. I know the stars, of course, because their names crop up in our team talks. But I couldn't say I really know the others."

When the time comes, Callaghan will probably apply himself to the insurance broker, one in which he now has a mainly nominal partnership. He will enjoy having more time to garden and for his wife, Linda, a former model and beauty queen, and their daughters, Samantha, aged five, and Suzanne, 18 months. But long after his retirement, his example will still be held up to the apprentices. Ronnie Moran, Liverpool's first team manager, will be saying: "The only time I can remember to speak to Callaghan was to tell him to slow down." And Bob Paisley will still be chuckling. "I wouldn't want all my professionals to be like him. I'd be out of a job."

Gerald Sinstadt

## Mushroom mystery and fairy ri

Mushrooms are a very common sight in some fields, but they are also a mystery to many people. They are often found in groups, and they can be very beautiful. Some people believe that they are magical, and that they can cure diseases. Others believe that they are poisonous, and that they can kill. The truth is that mushrooms are a very complex and fascinating part of the natural world.

They are still much more than just a fungus. They are a part of the natural world, and they have a very important role to play. They are often found in groups, and they can be very beautiful. Some people believe that they are magical, and that they can cure diseases. Others believe that they are poisonous, and that they can kill. The truth is that mushrooms are a very complex and fascinating part of the natural world.

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## THE PARTY THAT HAS NOT FAILED

Liberal Party assembly meets carborough next week at the of the conference season. Last year has inevitably been disappointing one for the Libs. There is a well established cycle in British politics in which the Liberal Party gains from dissatisfaction with the Conservative government on a much smaller scale than from dissatisfaction with the Labour government. Liberal Party seldom occur under governments which tend to reduce Conservative revivals.

Public opinion polls, unreliable though they may be, and Woolwich West by-elections so far suggested that the Libs were entering into one of those prolonged periods of frustration. As against this, the SNP win in a Lothian by-election may be good news for the third parties. The absurd re-arrangement of the Libs in the House of Commons has made it difficult for the party to have much public impact; once they seem to be a few more rather than the national election votes ought to make them.

It is usually dangerous to create the British political patterns in the past. Yet one may question whether this pattern of Liberalism in periods of Labour government will continue to apply in this Parliament. In 1974 elections showed that the main parties had lost the confidence of the nation. In the election neither of them was able to obtain as much as 30 per cent of the total votes or the support of as much as 30 per cent of the total electorate. There is a reason to think that the parties are more popular than they were a year ago.

### Divided

The Government's support—as it is—reflects more than anything else the decline in political expectations. The Libs have not become extremely unpopular, during its first eighteen months in office, it has presided over the most rapid rate of inflation in recent history and it is presiding over the development of the greatest rise in unemployment in recent history. Housing, education, and health policies have been either successful or positively damaging; its industrial policy has been

profligate; even the Chancellor is responsible for a massive increase in public expenditure and the largest recorded budget deficit, or deficit which is still out of control.

On the other hand the Government is given credit for coming to terms with reality, even through U-turns. It is now taking inflation; it did not take Britain out of Europe. There is a case for continuing the Labour Government as the one best qualified to get trade union support for nationally agreed policies. It is not a very inspiring case.

### Competent

Certainly the Conservative Party has not convinced the electorate that it would be able to do any better. The replacement of Mr Heath by Mrs Thatcher showed that the party was divided; not only on personalities but also on policy, and that division remains. Some of the ablest members of the Conservative Party have not reconciled themselves to the new regime; Mrs Thatcher's shadow cabinet seems to be the weakest Conservative front bench since the days when Mr Neville Chamberlain carefully pruned the ability out of the government.

Most of this is not Mrs Thatcher's fault. She is doing better than most of her critics expected. She is a very competent, professional leader of her party, and has made good if cautious judgments with few major mistakes. At the same time she has no far proved quite unable to fire the imaginations of the British public or of her own party. Mr Heath used to be criticized for not being charismatic but Mrs Thatcher now seems considerably less charismatic than him. Hardly anyone believes that Mrs Thatcher personally or the Conservative Party collectively have the answers to the problems of the nation.

There must, therefore, be a chance that the Liberal Party will begin again to win support, because the Libs are, in England, the alternative for those who are disillusioned with the major parties. Our own guess is that even at an early general election the revival of publicity and interest would lead to another large Liberal vote, very possibly again in excess of five million and certainly much larger than recent public opinion polls have shown. So long as people have every reason to resent being misgoverned in the

present by the Labour Party, and every reason to fear being ineffectively governed in the future by the Conservative Party, the Liberal position cannot be without political hope.

The Libs are quite justified in ruminating about the unfairness of the present electoral system. An evident point, which is now understood by many Conservatives, is that the present system, because it allows minority control of a minority party to determine the government, is the only way in which Socialist measures which are opposed by eighty per cent of the electorate can be foisted on the country. Yet it is not electoral reform—necessary as that is—which is the theme by which the Libs can hope to win the votes that they need.

At present Britain is a society working to frustrate itself. This week's *Times* magazine, in a judgment of Britain which would be shared by only too many friendly foreign observers, sums our situation up by saying that Britain is torn between us and them. As Mr David Steel wrote in his excellent pamphlet called *The Liberal Way Forward*, the conflict between us and them is institutionalized in the present party struggle. Whether or not the Conservative Party is in fact the party of the bosses—and to a large extent it is not—the Conservative Party is seen as the party of the bosses by the majority of those people who do not vote for it. The Labour Party is very largely the party of the trade unions, and is correctly seen as such both by those who do not vote Labour and by those who do.

### Damaging

The great intermediate majority of Britain who cannot identify their interests either with those of the CBI or the TUC want to bring this social conflict to an end. It is now more severe in Britain, and more damaging to our economy and our national interest, than in any other advanced industrial country. If they could succeed in representing the cause of harmony of the kingdom, the Libs could offer the country the new deal which is really needed. And they would not find that they lacked supporters, or partners, in government, if they were able to convince the nation that they could help to restore the spirit of social cooperation which Britain, and particularly British industry so greatly needs.

## MATTER OF TIMING

A comprehensive denial issued Downing Street of reports that Merlyn Rees is to be moved to the office of Secretary of State for Northern Ireland is earned by the word "shirily". Time for a change will be the present phase of government policy there has exhausted its useful life. That time comes, but so long as there is any political activity in or out of the Convention—and with Craig-Pailey contest for the Convention still on, the Convention remains a life-line for the Libs. It is appropriate that Mrs Rees should be moved to Stormont. Moreover, if too much immediately would be too harsh a judgment on record in Northern Ireland might even be thought to substance to the widespread escent suspicion that Mr Rees did some undeclared deal with the Provisional IRA. Mr Rees and others are baying for instant removal, mainly from suspicion; to grant the and might appear to endorse ground for it. Rees had hardly become stomed to his office before was confronted with the "alist" strike in May, 1974,

which brought down the new provincial Executive. It is believed in Dublin and by Mr Brian Faulkner, whose fall was encompassed at the same time, that had Mr Rees acted with more resolution to beat the strike the Executive and the Sunningdale Agreement could have been saved. It is doubtful even if the strike had been beaten whether those fruits of Mr Whitelaw's secretaryship would have lasted for long.

The distinguishing marks of Mr Rees's term of office are the Convention, the Provisional ceasefire, and the gradual clearance from prison of detainees who are held without trial in a court of law. The Convention was established as an opportunity for the province's elected representatives to agree on a future form of government among themselves, with the minimum of guidance or arm-twisting by the British Government. The fortuitous opportunity of getting an IRA ceasefire was exploited, partly in order to improve the chances of the Convention by securing an abatement of violence. The release of detainees was associated with the ceasefire, but was also expected to have a favourable impact on Roman Catholic opinion.

of movement it offers, the peacefulness of camp sites, and their cooking, to the horror of package tours, overcrowded hotels and expensive restaurants. By and large they constitute the more enterprising, independent, and considerate class of tourists, with a real love of the countryside and making the least demand on national resources. The demand is now proposed, that victimized as is now proposed, it is therefore to be hoped that Mr John Morris will think again. I am, Sir, etc.

GEORGE MARTELL,  
Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire,  
September 2.

### Perpetrators of inflation

From Mr Michael Gibbon  
Sir, I have this morning (September 8) received my copy of the Government's "Attack on Inflation". The Government are pleased to say that no reasonable person can put all the blame for runaway inflation on the trade unions. No, indeed. No reasonable person can put any of the blame there. Inflation is a phenomenon of money, and the trade unions do not have a licence to print paper money for general circulation. The blame belongs wholly to the Government, for printing too much paper; not only to the present, exceptionally bad, government, but to all governments in turn ever

since the war. Inflation is a pusillanimous, cowardly, and greedy policy, and again by successive governments on the working people of Great Britain.

This morning, too, I read in *The Times* the terse and wholly admirable letter from Mr Peter Clarke, concerning a distant part of the world, but on this same subject. What an apt coincidence. I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

MICHAEL GIBBON,  
Abberton Hall,  
Petersborough,  
Worcestershire,  
September 8.

### Union rank and file

From Mr Roger Cox  
Sir, In your otherwise excellent report of the Philip Agee meeting at the Blackpool TUC (The Times, September 5) you stated that the meeting was organized by the Socialist Worker.

## Britain's role in Cyprus

From Professor Alastair Buchan

Sir, I should like strongly to support Mr C. M. Woodhouse in criticizing both your leading article of September 8 and the deplorable suppression of the British Government in the Cyprus crisis of July 1974. We not only had a clear duty under the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee to prevent intervention by Greece, Turkey or any other power. We also had quite sufficient military power on the island or rapidly available offshore to overpower Samson and avert the situation which prompted Turkish intervention.

If Britain is often regarded elsewhere as a third (not a second) rate power, these days, it is not merely because her economy is in travail. It is also because her leaders do not seem to know how to make the right use of the limited resources she still has.

Yours faithfully,  
ALASTAIR BUCHAN,  
Waterloo House,  
Brill,  
Buckinghamshire,  
September 10.

From Major-General R. L. T. Burgess

Sir, Mr Woodhouse and Miss Windridge (what a name!) are not in the Foreign Office) might have added that, due to our failure to measure up to our obligations, our stock with both communities in Cyprus has never been so low.

Before passing final judgment, however, one needs to know what proposals Mr Burgess brought to London immediately after the coup that deposed Archbishop Makarios. It was surely in those few days before the Turkish invasion that we were given the opportunity of a skilful diplomacy to avert the whole tragedy. But one needs the facts.

All accounts from the British remaining in the North corroborate that the whole area is a depressing economic wilderness, with looting the only activity that has been well organized. Even here, though, it is pleasant to record that our membership of Nato has worked well for at least one individual. The story goes that a certain serving Admiral had his house in Lapetos looted bare like everyone else's. He very possibly made unofficial contact with his opposite number in the Turkish Navy, and his belongings were returned immediately and a guard put on his house. Other property owners wish that the Foreign Office had as good contacts as the Admiral.

Yours faithfully,  
R. L. T. BURGESS,  
Formerly GOC Cyprus District,  
Freemantle, Southampton,  
Over Weymouth,  
Hampshire,  
September 12.

### Schools' success rates

From Mr K. J. Rees

Sir, In case the headmasters of Andover and Northern Hants (not mention Headmasters' Conference) are still too daunted to reply after Mr Levin's bludgeoning, may I suggest one reason for their alleged unwillingness to publish exam results in the simple form he seems to expect?

It is well known to all teachers and most parents that you cannot tell the present state of a school's intellectual level by the number of boys or girls of average intelligence (which by definition means an IQ of 100) at Ordinary Level. He must have worked very hard and been taught very well. On the other hand for a "C" grade (IQ 125 plus) to be not to do so would suggest idleness or bad teaching or both. If, as may well be the case, the average number of passes in the comprehensives of Andover and Northern Hants is better than in (say) Manchester Grammar School, people may well jump to the conclusion that teaching at Andover is "bad" and at MGS "good"; this, I suspect, is what is meant by "uninformed opinion making unfair comparisons".

Many teachers nevertheless would agree with Mr Levin that there is a rough-and-ready way of judging the efficiency of the schools concerned, but it would at least give a fairer basis for comparison than a mere list of passes.

Yours faithfully,  
R. J. REES,  
14 The Moorings,  
St John's Road,  
Barnstaple.

### Recruitment to the Bar

From Mr John R. Poole

Sir, The various problems mentioned in the correspondence on recruitment to the Bar are automatically solved by the Australian procedures, which permit of trouble-free switching from either branch of the profession to the other, after five years' practice.

That system preserves all the advantages of having separate branches of barristers and solicitors (in Australia they started with a fusion, but it was abandoned, and they are now free to do so, as will, I am sure, be a very healthy development). But their system avoids all our own disadvantages of apparent monopoly and artificial restrictions. Of course their system presupposes a common basis of legal education, but we are bound to follow that in due course.

There are probably not very many Australian practitioners who have actually switched from one branch to the other, but the fact that they are free to do so, as will, I am sure, be a very healthy development. I know how well their system works, being both an English solicitor and a member of the NSW Bar, with experience (before my retirement) of both systems.

Yours truly,  
JOHN R. POOLE,  
Merton Bar,  
Graftonchester,  
Cambridge.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Birmingham newspaper dispute

From the Leader of Birmingham City Council

Sir, The advertisement for your newspaper, "We take no pride in prejudice", is a very good one and perhaps I could take the opportunity of testing that out by raising some issues concerning the recent dispute between journalists and the Birmingham Post and Mail Group.

The Times printed a letter from the editor of the Birmingham Evening Mail (August 20) and wrote an editorial (August 18) on the dispute and my conduct as Leader of the Birmingham City Council in refusing to speak to journalists, members of the National Union of Journalists, who were working while the National Union of Journalists were locked out. The dispute stemmed from a disagreement between management and journalists over pay and conditions.

The Birmingham Post and Mail Group in fact sacked over two hundred journalists because they were holding chapel meetings during work time although no edition of the paper was ever lost through this action. This was a strange move by the Post and Mail considering in editorials and statements they made they said their main interest was informing the public and providing a proper news service. How you expect to collect the news and provide the necessary information by sacking 200 journalists is beyond my comprehension.

When the dispute began I made a personal decision as a trade unionist not to speak to the people who were producing the paper while sacked and locked out from their work. At no time have I issued any instructions to an officer not to speak to the press or refused to send our reports of committees which they were entitled to see under the Local Government Act. The reason no such reports have been printed in the Mail over the last few weeks is because during the month of August we are in recess and committees have not met.

I have commented on the local commercial radio on BBC radio and on both television channels. The coverage on commercial radio is one million listeners per day, on Radio Birmingham between one half and three quarters of a million listeners per day and on evening news programmes on BBC television are watched by about four million viewers. I have spoken to other newspapers when they have asked me to comment on matters pertaining to the City of Birmingham and other local authority matters in general, so there has been no black-out of information to the electorate, the only thing that has happened is that the Post and Mail has not been getting direct comments from me. I cannot see that this in any way could constitute a threat to the freedom of the press. I would certainly say that the sacking of 200 journalists constituted a bigger threat to that freedom.

One of my colleagues, Councillor John Charlton, Chairman of the Environmental Services Committee, has since he has been chairman, had the practice of instructing his officers that as chairman and the man who takes the final responsibility, he is the one who will speak to the press unless anyone else's statement is cleared by him. This is perfectly reasonable in my view and is a perfectly legal basis for the City Solicitor's ruled that should the councillors, as employers, wish to stop officers speaking to the press then we are legally entitled to do so as the council staff are employed by the council and not the ratepayers. Once again I cannot see Councillor Charlton's action as

### The traditional Mass

From Mr Aldrich Wellington

Sir, The report in *The Times* (August 28) of the warning given by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Northampton to Father Baker is deeply disturbing. The declaration on religious freedom in the documents of the Second Vatican Council expounded the inalienable right to worship (or not to worship) as conscience dictates. By admitting the validity of private conscience the council started a revolution whose implications are not yet apprehended by many Catholics.

If Father Baker sincerely believes—and a great number of Catholics would agree with him—that the Tridentine Mass is not only a beautiful religious act, but the Mass for which the later Elizabethan English martyrs died, then he has not, in accordance with the Second Vatican Council, the right to say it? I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

ALDRICH WELLINGTON,  
8 Abbey Water,  
Romsey,  
Hampshire.

From Mr David Crane  
Sir, There continue to be reports of the resistance at Downham Market to the attempt to extinguish the traditional Roman Mass. Catholics are exhorted by their bishops to be obedient and to adopt the new ways, even though not all the bishops, it seems, are as convinced themselves as they might be of the wisdom of modern liturgical controversy and the proscription of the old Mass.

Of course one must accept that in a matter of faith or morals, where the Church has solemnly spoken, as for instance by means of a Papal Encyclical, unquestioning acceptance even where one cannot wholly understand is required of a faithful Catholic. But the present case is one of liturgical discipline and not of faith or morals. It does not seem unreasonable in this case, therefore, to ask that our obedience should be elicited by explanation and be accompanied by clear understanding of the reasons of the ways in which the Mass of St Pius V, and in all essentials the Mass of St Gregory the Great, the Mass of St Bede and St Thomas Becket, and of our English Martyrs, is now found to be so liturgically scandalous, deficient, theologically offensive that its use must be absolutely prohibited.

We are asked to turn away from the traditional liturgy which has grown into beauty, universality and

being a threat to the freedom of the press but only protecting his own position, from badly worked or incorrect information or officers commenting on political matters.

As the editor of the *Evening Mail* was the person who raised the question of the freedom of the press, I think it would be right to examine the Mail's attitude to the other side reporting the dispute and I think we see some very interesting phenomena and their actions seem to be somewhat different from what they preach in their editorials. For instance, the commercial radio station, BRMB, did a report on the journalists' dispute with the *Evening Mail* and the Mail complained they refused to publish the programme of BRMB in their newspaper. This does not seem to be the conduct one would expect from a newspaper which is always claiming that the people have a right to obtain information.

The Mail staff said they would prepare such a statement in order to put what they said on their side. They never prepared that statement nor gave any other information to BRMB. What they did was to write a letter of complaint and then to refuse to publish the programme of BRMB in their newspaper. This does not seem to be the conduct one would expect from a newspaper which is always claiming that the people have a right to obtain information.

BBC Radio Birmingham also did an article about the dispute and immediately lawyers from the *Evening Mail* contacted the BBC about the broadcast and there has been a series of negotiations between the two sides about whether this item should be rebroadcast and the future was that Radio Birmingham deal with the dispute. Once again it strikes me as being a different attitude when the Mail dispute is being commented on by the media as to what they expect from other people when they make inquiries. In other words we have from the editor of the Mail a policy of "don't do as I do, do as I say". I would imagine no reputable newspaper or journalist would support it.

We recently had a debate in the council chamber about the dispute and about my own position with regard to speaking to the newspapers and the situation of officers, where I outlined in the council all the news programmes that I have included in this letter to you. Nowhere in the report of that council meeting did the *Evening Mail* mention these matters appertaining to themselves. Once again it would appear that although the Mail is campaigning on the issue of the right of the people to know and that information is essential for the public to be able to understand the affairs of the day through their own newspaper, they obviously decided to censor what was said in the council chamber about their own dispute. One wonders what credence can be put to the reports that are printed in the *Evening Mail* when they are so blatantly prejudiced in their own case.

I have contacted the Press Council about another issue and I am waiting to hear from the Birmingham Evening Mail concerning this complaint but although a month has gone by, the editor has completely ignored my complaint; so much for justice and fair play.

Perhaps this will give your readers the opportunity to see the other side of the case in this particular dispute.

Yours faithfully,  
CLIVE WILKINSON,  
The Council House,  
PO Box 17,  
Birmingham,  
September 9.

### Teaching of religion

From Mr J. R. M. Mott

Sir, The Chairman of the Headmasters' Conference, the Reverend Patrick Barry, is reported by your Education Correspondent (September 6) as saying that the teaching of comparative religion in religious education is "no substitute for Christianity". Whereas new teachers of religious education are likely to disagree with him on this point, the aims and content of syllabuses in this subject are not designed to maintain "schools' Christian tradition" by ignoring education, theory and practice, according to which it is essential that indoctrination should be avoided.

Indoctrination has been described as the "teaching of reasonably disputable doctrines as if they were known facts". Father Barry acknowledges that "we do not wish to impose our faith on others", but he seems to expect that we can "convey the faith of parents to their children" by the exclusion from honest consideration of all other reasonable claims to truth. In a secular society it is not possible for teachers of religious education to do this and to retain their intellectual integrity.

There may be truth in Father Barry's belief that "Christian belief provides a precise view of what man is" and that "man is not a creature of this world only", but it is absolutely essential that such beliefs are presented in an educational context in a manner in which the pupils' freedom of judgment is unhampered and not diminished.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN R. M. MOTT,  
Head of Religious Education  
Department,  
Marlborough College,  
Wiltshire,  
September 6.

## Gains by Welsh Nationalists

From Mr Dafydd Williams

Sir, The great win by the Scottish Nationalist Party in Lothian Regional Council has given the London Government a timely warning that it cannot afford to ignore the growing demand for self-government.

What most Fleet Street papers have overlooked however has been the equally significant run of Welsh by-election victories by Plaid Cymru in the valleys of Mid-Glamorgan and Gwent since the last general election. Since last October, Plaid Cymru has scored seven gains on county and district authorities, all but one at the expense of Labour in what has been regarded as their Welsh stronghold.

The simultaneous growth of the two national movements in Scotland and Wales is no accident. In both countries dissatisfaction with remote London government goes hand in hand with a positive recovery of confidence and a growing desire to live a national future rather than remain as decaying provinces of an outmoded empire.

Yours faithfully,  
DAFYDD WILLIAMS,  
General Secretary, Plaid Cymru,  
8 New Frithfield, Cardiff,  
September 11.

### Conditions in Chile

From Mr Andrew Muir

Sir, I have just returned from a month's holiday in Chile where I had a chance to see and talk to people in all walks of life in their homes, factories and at school. My impression is that it is a country that is not at all unhappy with the present military government.

I saw no sad faces, no signs of malnutrition nor starvation. The police were invariably courteous and never overbearing—and the modest curfew (1 am to 5 am) was regarded by most people as a social asset which encouraged the early departure of guests who previously had tended to linger on until all hours of the morning.

Inflation has been high but the August figure of 8 per cent suggests a considerable improvement is being achieved. There is a severe shortage of work caused by the recession, but even here the production figures for August that I have seen suggest that a plateau has been reached.

All of this indicates, in my view, that Mr Macdonald's talk (article, September 11) of brutal repression and the hopeless outlook for industry is perhaps a little coloured.

Yours sincerely,  
ANDREW MUIR,  
Breakfast Kiosk, where I was  
113 Park Lane, W1,  
September 11.

### Electoral reform

From Sir R. G. Bull

Sir, I must reluctantly agree with Mr Andrew Muir when he suggests that Norman Lamont misses the point in arguing that Conservative advocates of electoral reform are intent on breaking up the Labour Party.

Their ambition is surely wider: it is to completely depose the present two-party system of government and replace it with a system of shifting centrist coalitions by increasing the Parliamentary representation of the Liberal Party.

However, I do claim instead to be motivated by some new-found ideal of democracy. Mr Julian Critchley was exceptionally frank in his recently expressed preference for Liberal/Labour and Liberal/Conservative coalitions in the alternative of Labour and Conservative ministries.

These reformists exhibit a real lack of confidence in the Conservative Party's ability to win, and in keep office. However, in this they do not represent the body of Conservative opinion in the country which, whilst possibly confused by the marriage of argument about differing electoral systems, has not lost its essential loyalty of Conservative electoral victory.

Yours faithfully,  
R. G. BULL,  
22 St Alban's Crescent, N22,  
September 9.

### Peccant

From Mr Hew Strachan

Sir, In your report of Saturday, September 6, on the British Library's exhibition of Sir Charles Napier's drawings, it is a pity that your correspondent should have perpetuated the hoary myth that Napier himself was responsible for that glorious pun, peccant. The authorship surely rests with Punch.

Both Charles and his brother-cum-publicist, the Peninsular War historian, William, were far too aware of the dubious legitimacy of the conquest of Scinde to have admitted it openly. Their attitude, as testified in their long-drawn out wrangles with the East India Company and James Outram (who had done his utmost to persuade the Amirs to avert war), was extremely defensive.

It is no exaggeration to say that Sir Charles was principally interested in securing the military glory consequent on a great victory—an opportunity which, at over 60, he thought had passed him by and was certainly not likely to recur. Subsidiary motives were of course his zeal for reform, contempt for despots, and love of just, fair and efficient government. Behind him, the Governor-General, Lord Ellenborough, shared these ambitions, and in particular hoped for the opening of the navigation of the Indus and the recovery of British military prestige in India after the disasters of the First Afghan War.

Quite apart from the inherent improbability of Napier himself penning such a confession of guilt, he was of course prevented from cabling that pithy message by the absence of a telegraph.

Yours faithfully,  
HEW STRACHAN,  
As from Corpus Christi College,  
Cambridge,  
September 9.







# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

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### Curbs on Japanese motor exports to Britain seen as unavoidable

#### Tokyo as unavoidable

Edward Townsend  
Japanese car makers were yesterday at the start of imposing voluntary curbs on their exports to Britain. The move follows pressure from the Japanese government and appears to be a concession to persistent British car policies.

A major shift by the Japanese car industry which has been protesting its inroads in the face of fierce competition from the United Kingdom is the result of a request from the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

Industry officials were that a voluntary curb would be a reasonable compromise in and help to improve a balance now heavily in Japan's favour.

Yesterday Japanese car makers were considered such a concession in view of the increasing exports to Britain.

A move comes a few days after the arrival in Tokyo of Mr Peter G. Wilson, Secretary of State for

Trade. He is certain to impress on the Japanese the tougher policy towards imports outlined yesterday by Mr Wilson.

Mr Wilson said he did not rule out protective measures for industries suffering serious injury from increased imports, for example where there was evidence of dumping or other forms of unfair trading.

Tokyo sources repeated Japanese claims yesterday that the big increase in car exports to the United Kingdom was caused by industrial disputes in the British motor industry and again denied that Japanese cars were being dumped at unfair prices.

Mr Shore, who recently urged British consumers to "search their consciences" before buying foreign goods, will be spending a week in Japan and will have talks with his Japanese counterpart, Mr Toshio Komoto, as well as make a tour of industrial facilities.

The possibility of a curb on car exports will come as no surprise to some observers in the British motor industry. Mr John Beswick, director of the Society of Motor Manufacturers, said last month he would be surprised if the Japanese continued to "pump in" goods to the

United Kingdom to the extent that it forced the Government to take action.

However, with the United Kingdom car market expected to decline by 90,000 next year to just over one million, the Japanese can still increase their overall share by maintaining their car exports to Britain at present levels.

Total Japanese car sales in the first eight months of 1975 were 83,301. This was 60.2 per cent higher than a year earlier. Their market penetration rose from 5.75 per cent to 9.64 per cent, a bigger slice than that captured by either Chrysler or Vauxhall. The Datsun Sunny is now the seventh most popular car in Britain.

Arguments from British car manufacturers and trade unions have centred on the United Kingdom shipment prices of Japanese cars. Critics have claimed that the prices, compared with British models, could silence on widespread reports of a dispute between him and his chairman, Sir John Davis.

A spokesman would say only that Mr Dawson was away on holiday. But sources close to the company were certain that an announcement of his departure would be made early next week after compensation arrangements had been made.

On the stock market news of the fracas within the boardroom of the £225m Rank Xerox copying machines, films, leisure and property group was hailed badly. Shares fell 8p to close at 38p. There was expectation of trouble from Rank's United States shareholders, who control over 40 per cent of the more widely held "A" shares.

They have recently shown themselves keenly opposed to policies pursued by the company. Mr Dawson's departure leaves Sir John, together with the Rank company secretary, the only executive directors on

### Citibank raises prime rate as Fed's policy on money supply fuels higher interest trend

From Frank Vogt  
Washington, Sept 12  
First National City Bank of New York today increased its prime lending rate to 8 per cent from 7 1/2 per cent. A host of banks across the country followed suit, taking the prime rate to its highest level since March.

It was not altogether unexpected in the markets. New Federal Reserve System data had shown a sharp reduction in the money supply, coupled with rising commercial paper rates. For some weeks the underlying

ing upward trend of inflation has caused widespread fears that interest rates would continue rising.

Today's move could have been prevented by the Federal Reserve System by supplying more funds to the markets earlier this week, but because of its concern over inflation, it appears to be set again on a tighter money-policy course.

The Fed's actions and the resulting interest rate rises are bound to lead to a storm of protest from Congress and grave concern abroad, as the prospect of high interest rates and tight money dampening the

pace of economic recovery becomes more certain.

Unless the Fed relaxes its monetary policies, soon the level of interest rates is bound to go still higher, according to market experts, owing to the start of an upswing in business loan demand, coupled with the heavy financing demands of New York and the Federal government.

Other leading New York banks have yet to announce prime rate rises, although banks in Boston, Philadelphia and California moved to 8 per cent. Citibank has often been out of line with its rivals in New

York in its prime rate levels; but the others have usually moved to the Citibank rate after a time and it seems probable that many of them will go to 8 per cent early next week.

The Federal Reserve's new data show the average rate on 90-day commercial paper in the last three weeks moved ahead to 6.65 per cent. Citibank bases its prime rate on this commercial paper rate, plus an additional 1 1/2 per cent.

The Fed's money supply data show a drop of nearly \$1,000m (£476m) in the week ending September 3.

### Convener is dismissed for joining the board

An experiment in industrial democracy by the Fellas Dock and Railway Company collapsed yesterday only two days after its inception when the port's shop stewards sacked their convener for joining the dem port gave their convener Transport and General Workers' Union shop stewards at the country's largest independent port gave their convener, Mr G. "Larry" O'Donnell, an ultimatum to give up his full-time position or the part-time seat he had taken on the board. He chose the latter.

Mr O'Donnell was replaced by Mr W. O. Alcorn, despite his earlier claim that the stewards had only a few days before supported his appointment as a part-time director able to put the workers' point of view.

Senior officials of the TWGU, who approved the shift in the board, will be seriously embarrassed.

**Short time at Bathgate**  
Short-time working is now in effect for shop-floor employees at the British Leyland factory at Bathgate, West Lothian, where there has been a fall in orders for trucks and tractors. Proposals for a four-day week were discussed yesterday at a meeting between management and shop stewards.

**Ford plant for Egypt**  
Egypt has given the Ford Motor Company approval in principle for a \$230m (£110m) complex there, the Arab Press Service weekly bulletin said yesterday. The project could produce inter-Arab controversy because Ford has been blacklisted by the Arab boycott of Israel.

**Strike shuts factory**  
York Trailers' secondary factory, closed yesterday and the management said it might never reopen. Members of the Transport and General Workers' Union have been on strike at the factory for five weeks now, the dismissal of a shop steward.

### Mr Wilson gives hint on import controls

Our Political Staff  
Clear indication that the Government has not entirely ruled out the possibility of car import controls was given by the Prime Minister yesterday. While rejecting general import controls, he indicated active measures for particular industries. In some sectors, he was already in hand.

In a key passage in a speech made at the opening of the "Electrical Industries" factory, at Enfield, London, Mr Wilson said:

"With a surplus in our world of manufacturers averaging £100m a month in the seven months of this year, it is against our interests to let the retaliation which would be imposed on our exports which have proved this surplus that would be vulnerable to such retaliation."

He continued: "In saying I do not rule out protective measures for particular industries, I am not saying that as a result of increased imports, for example where there is evidence of dumping or other forms of unfair trading."

Mr Wilson said that for a year in his constituency, the resultant problems for producers of its raw material.

A Prime Minister added there is one fundamental reason why the British car industry has been in

mem—its quantity, its quality, its timing—and the productivity which stems from it. We have been devoting less of our resources to industrial investment than our main competitors, and our performance has been getting worse."

Since the beginning of this year the country had felt the growing impact on employment in this country of a depression and its effect on world trade; and of inflation and its effect on industrial confidence.

"We are now seeing that impact in the tragic rise in the unemployment figures month by month. In order to slow down and then to reverse that rise we need to do two immediate things: above all," Mr Wilson said.

"We have to get on top of our domestic costs, and build up domestic demand, and to do this we need to support the proposals in the Government White Paper 'The Attack on Inflation' is the essential basis for this."

Referring to the latest retail price figures he said: "We know that there are still some further price increases to come through. There are public industry deficits still to be dealt with, for successive governments have emphasised that prices and charges must cover costs."

"It is in everyone's interests that these costs should be absorbed without being passed through into higher prices in the shops. But we need to do the greatest possible—particularly wage costs—within the limits set out in the Government's White Paper."

### Home sales gain by UK trucks

Britain's motor industry, frustrated by the large slice of the car market captured by imports, can take heart today from the latest commercial vehicle sales figures. These show that domestic manufacturers are at last beginning to recapture sales previously lost to overseas makers.

In the first eight months of the year, British truck sales totalled 136,815 to take 88.27 per cent of the market, a 2.3 per cent increase on the same period of last year.

The figures, issued today by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, indicate the growing competitiveness in recent months of British truck makers, some of whom have introduced new models this year.

Unlike the new car market, which is severely depressed, commercial vehicle sales in the eight months were only 5.4 per cent down at 155,001 compared with last year.

The biggest setback suffered by the importers was at the light end of the goods vehicle market (car-derived vans and pick-ups), where sales of British vehicles rose by 0.29 per cent to 44,618 but imported sales tumbled by more than 25 per cent to 33,818.

At the heavy end (3.5 tons upwards) the importers saw their share of the market—depressed by 3.2 per cent—fall from 11.1 per cent last year to 8.38 per cent. Sales of British heavy trucks fell by only 1.33 per cent but imports dropped by 18.27 per cent.

The increased British share of the total market appears to have been spread across most of the major manufacturers.

### Rank chief likely to quit after clash

By Our Financial Staff  
Mr Graham Dawson seems almost certain to quit as chief executive of the Rank Organisation, though the group yesterday maintained a tight-lipped silence on widespread reports of a dispute between him and his chairman, Sir John Davis.

A spokesman would say only that Mr Dawson was away on holiday. But sources close to the company were certain that an announcement of his departure would be made early next week after compensation arrangements had been made.

On the stock market news of the fracas within the boardroom of the £225m Rank Xerox copying machines, films, leisure and property group was hailed badly. Shares fell 8p to close at 38p. There was expectation of trouble from Rank's United States shareholders, who control over 40 per cent of the more widely held "A" shares.

They have recently shown themselves keenly opposed to policies pursued by the company. Mr Dawson's departure leaves Sir John, together with the Rank company secretary, the only executive directors on



Mr Graham Dawson: departure expected next week.



Sir John Davis: a question of authority.

### BP shares deal abroad rumoured

By Terry Byland  
There were widespread rumours in London yesterday that a substantial line of BP shares had been sold abroad, possibly to Arab interests. A firm denial from Distillers that it was the seller raised the inevitable question in the City of whether the Bank of England was trying to dispose of the BP shares taken over from Burmah Oil. The City hopes for some statement before the stock market opens on Monday.

First rumours of an attempted placing of BP shares came on Thursday evening, when about seven million shares were said to be on offer at 480p a share. But some sources challenged this figure and insisted that only two and a half million shares were mentioned. By midday it was rumoured that the Shah of Iran, who is known to be a willing taker of BP shares, was the buyer.

The Bank of England was inevitably drawn in on the list of possible sellers of a shareholding of this size. But London dealers doubted whether the Bank would attempt to unload its ex-Burmah stake in such relatively small parcels. RTZ, also a BP stakeholder, assured Business News that it was not a seller at present. And Burmah, still a substantial BP shareholder, also denied selling.

Investor's Week, page 17

### Dispute threatens to halt Llanwern plant

By Our Industrial Staff  
Steelmaking at the British Steel Corporation's complex at Llanwern in South Wales could be halted throughout the winter if the works' new £65m blast furnace, the subject of a seven-month-long wages dispute, is not brought into operation.

The steel steel underlining has revealed that operation of the only working blast-furnace at Llanwern is threatened by the furnace's two 15-year-old cooling towers are in danger of collapsing in high winter winds.

Warning and evacuation systems have been set up at the works and according to Steel News, the BSC newspaper, the blast-furnace is likely to be shut down for at least 50 per cent of the winter months.

However, the corporation has given warning that such a move would not be viable both from the quality and cost considerations. The alternatives for the winter are seen as a cessation of production or the starting up of the new furnace.

The older furnace has a capacity of 2,500 tonnes of iron a day, half that of the new and steel output from Llanwern is at present about 12,000 tonnes a week.

The plant produces flat rolled steel sheet largely for the motor industry. Additional output cuts will cause further

embarrassment to the BSC, which only this week admitted that it was having difficulty in supplying correct quality steel to British Leyland.

The new furnace, the largest and most modern in Britain, was completed seven months ago as part of a £150m expansion scheme. Last month, the BSC confirmed that it planned to go ahead with the commissioning of the plant despite the row over wages.

National officials of the blast-furnace union have turned down a BSC pay offer to run the plant, which can operate with 150 workers instead of the 288 needed for the existing furnace, and have threatened to stage a national steel strike.

The commissioning process will reach a critical stage tomorrow. The corporation has told workers that they must start up the new furnace by the end of this week if it is to take over from the old furnace before the November windy season.

Mr Gordon Sambrook, the BSC's managing director, personnel and social policy, said in Steel News it was "high time" the corporation was getting a return on the £65m investment. It was essential that the new furnace was operating at maximum efficiency when the upturn in steel demand arrived.

### £34m North Sea stake for Deminex

By Maurice Corina  
Industrial Editor  
The complex story of the Thistle oilfield in the North Sea took another twist yesterday when it was announced the German state-owned oil enterprise Deminex would pay about £34.5m for an American-held interest in the master block.

Deminex, which has already agreed to work with the British National Oil Corporation and is moving in on both the Celtic and North Sea, has been negotiating the deal for some months. It is to pay cash for the 22.5 per cent interest held by Champion Petroleum, wholly owned by Union Pacific Corporation, in the North Sea licence 223/18 which covers the vital Block 211/18 and includes most of the commercial Thistle oilfield discovered in July 1973.

The substantial price has been agreed against the background of the Government's efforts to speed up exploitation of the Thistle oilfield, recently providing substantial interim guarantees to one of the smaller partners, Tricentrol. This complex holds a 10 per cent interest in the block and about 9.1 per cent in the Thistle field as a whole.

Other partners are Burmah Oil Developments (24 per cent), Santa Fe (22.5 per cent), United Canso Oil (20 per cent) and Charterhouse Securities (1 per cent).

The Department of Energy has been aware of Deminex's efforts to buy its way into the Thistle field. The German concern is already linked with the British Gas Corporation on Block 106/28 and has received licence for work in the Irish Sea.

The Thistle field has a history of wheeling and dealing, centring on what has been known as the Signal Halibut group. At one stage there were fears that development might be held up because of financing complications, but it is now hoped that taxpayer guarantees of up to £38.3m for Tricentrol will keep development going ahead rapidly.

### Lager deal by Grand Met

By Our Financial Staff  
Grand Metropolitan, the brewing, hotels and milk company, has sold its 49 per cent stake in Carlsberg Brewery to United Breweries, the Danish parent of the British lager producing concern, for just over £11m.

The deal means that United Breweries will now assume 100 per cent control of Carlsberg Brewery. It involves a cash consideration of £5.35m, plus the repayment of various loans totalling a further £5.75m which Grand Met had made to the brewery.

Grand Met will give up its licence to brew Tupper Lager, which is also controlled by United Breweries, the biggest producer of lager in the world. And the present agreement to supply Carlsberg as the house lager in Watney pubs will be extended to all Grand Met outlets.

This means that Trumpton, which is also owned by Grand Met, will switch from brewing Tuborg to Carlsberg at its brewery in Brick Lane, London, and will in future sell Carlsberg as its house brand.

The deal ties up a number of loose ends for both Grand Met and United Breweries. Grand Met maintains it was never particularly keen with the arrangement it inherited when it took over Watney's 49 per cent stake in Carlsberg Brewery, based in Northampton, moose it had to put up half the cash for the business without having control.

A further attraction of the deal is that Grand Met now has two sources for its lager, instead of one.

### auxhall assures unions

Mr W. Shakespeare  
Mr Shakespeare, Vauxhall's senior management representative, assured Vauxhall Motor plants in the American-owned General Motors company, General Motors was last night remaining non-committal about the way of the German Opel plant in Germany and market in Britain under the hall banner.

Import rumours were raised earlier this week by stewards at Vauxhall's new Port car plant on the outside where the labour has been cut by 3,000 in 12 months.

On representatives have used concern especially at Vauxhall has also been the loss of another jobs at the company's car plant.

Although Vauxhall management could hold out little of stepping-up production the next 12 months it did some optimistic Leyland while the company is facing more production and labour problems in its car manufacturing and truck operations next year.

There is the probability of a company's "Triumph plants in the Leeds because of a continuing rise by drivers employed car delivery firm."

At British Leyland's five truck factories in Lancashire where 9,000 workers from a week's holiday yesterday, shop stewards will discuss their next move to discuss a company agreement that a new pay due to be implemented month will have to be related.

### Rights issue caution to Leyland shareholders

By Our Financial Staff  
British Leyland, which disclosed a £42.3m loss for the first six months of the financial year, will make "a large loss" for the full 12 months, Mr Alex Park, the chief executive, makes this statement in a circular to shareholders.

The caution is made by way of underlining a warning to shareholders not to take up their entitlement under a £213.8m rights issue, which is being underwritten mainly by the Government, to inject £200m into the company.

Mr Park writes that the directors "do not feel able, at the present time, to make any forecast as to profitability over the next few years and, in the light of what is stated in the Ryder report, do not foresee the likelihood of dividends for some years to come."

He points out to shareholders

that the price of the new shares at £1 each is substantially higher than the 40p middle market quotation of BL shares on September 4 (yesterday's closing price was 37p). Mr Park states: "Accordingly, it is not likely to be in your financial interests to take up the new Ordinary shares now being offered."

The offer is on the basis of 10 new shares for every three held and one new share for every £1.65 nominal of convertible loan stock. If no private shareholders take up the offer, the Government will take up 20 million shares, raising its stake in Leyland from 78 per cent to 93 per cent.

The £200m in equity which the Government will inject into the company is the first tranche of the £1,400m which the Ryder report envisaged would be needed by the company up to 1982.

### Steel strike seems certain

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor  
A national strike in state steel threatened by the National Union of Blastfurnacemen now looks inevitable. British steel management will early tomorrow ask two blastfurnace workers to begin work on commissioning the new ironmaking plant, but it is not expected that the NUB will cooperate.

The corporation is "hoping against hope" that a pumpman and a waterman whose skills are needed in the next stage of the commissioning process will leave the existing

furnace in defiance of their union's veto on working Number Three. There is virtually no prospect of this happening, and BSC is already preparing contingency plans for the closure of ironmaking processes.

The scene is thus set for an all-out confrontation. British Steel has given a warning to the union that unless NUB members cooperate in getting the new furnace into commission, they will be sent home. As soon as this happens, the union will call out all its 11,000 members on strike. Both sides say they are not bluffing.

### How the markets moved

Rises	Falls
BP 5p to 230p	Add Int 4p to 6p
BP Am Tob 5p to 230p	BLM 3p to 40p
DRG 5p to 38p	Blackwood Hodge 3p to 110p
Electrocomp 4p to 100p	Caravans Int 3p to 15p
Hoffmann 4p to 80p	De Beers Dist 5p to 28p
Johnson Matt 8p to 26p	Renold Grp 5p to 78p
Metal Box 6p to 230p	Im Cold Store 5p to 148p
Rockit & Col 5p to 315p	Messina Trans 20p to 305p
Reynolds Farms 5p to 62p	Pretoria P Com 5p to 200p
Smith, W. B. 5p to 385p	Rank Org Ord 5p to 130p
Tate & Lyle 4p to 130p	Robinson 4p to 130p
Tube Inv 4p to 225p	Sentrast 5p to 285p
Weyburn Eng 4p to 225p	Vlaanderen 4p to 130p
W Rand Cons 5p to 225p	White Child 3p to 40p

Equities largely discounted the August trade figures and the tone was firm at the close. The effective dividend rate was 27.4 per cent.

Gold declined by 25 cents on the day to \$147.25 an ounce. SDRs were 1.18420 on Friday, while SDRs were 0.561845.

Commodities: Reuters' index closed at 1,156.5 (1,156.0 on Thursday).

Report, pages 17 and 18

The Times index: 134.00 + 0.7  
The FT index: 318.5 + 2.8

### THE POUND

Rank	Rank
buys	sells
Australia \$ 1.70	1.44
Austria Sch 39.25	37.25
Belgium Fr 82.50	82.50
Canada \$ 2.21	2.16
Denmark Kr 12.55	12.55
Finland Mk 8.20	7.95
France Fr 9.53	9.25
Germany DM 6.67	6.50
Greece Dr 70.75	68.50
Hong Kong \$ 10.85	10.45
Italy Lr 1558.00	1495.00
Netherlands Gld 650.00	625.00
Canada \$ 2.21	2.16
New York \$ 11.95	11.60
Portugal Esc 59.00	56.00
S Africa R 12.75	12.71
Spain Ps 125.75	120.75
Sweden Kr 9.50	9.20
Switzerland Fr 5.80	5.60
US \$ 2.15	2.10
Yugoslavia Dnr 40.25	38.25

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Stock Exchange prices

## Prices stay firm

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Sept 8. Dealings End Sept 12. Contango Day, Sept 22. Settlement Day, Sept 30.  
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.


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in inch and metric sizes

FISH FUNDS				COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL				INSURANCE				INVESTMENT TRUSTS				PROPERTY				RUBBER				TEA				MISCELLANEOUS				SHIPPING				MINES				FINANCIAL TRUSTS				THE TIMES SHARE INDICES																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
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